‘I have never faked an orgasm on YouTube in the name of comedy. But tomorrow is another day’

Emma Teitel on social media, millennials and Peegate

metroVIEWS

Toronto metro

CANADA’S JASON WU ROCKS NEW YORK

metroLIFE

Your essential daily news | TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

High 28°C/Low 16°C Sun, sun, sun!

FASTER, HIGHER ... OVER

SPORT

Toronto’s bid for Olympics never even gets off the ground

Toronto will not be hosting the 2024 Summer Olympics, with Mayor John Tory deciding not to enter the city into the competitive bid process, Torstar News Service has learned.

The mayor’s office would not confirm Tory’s position ahead of the deadline to submit a formal letter to the International Olympic Committee by 6 p.m. Tuesday, but two sources with knowledge of the decision say after weeks of deliberation, the talks of a bid are now over.

Tory was scheduled to make the announcement in front of city hall Tuesday morning.

The decision was made after Tory received a lack of corporate enthusiasm and no firm support from the province. Key potential sponsors have also been lukewarm to backing a Toronto bid to host the mega sporting event.

And timing is also working against the mayor. The International Olympic Committee’s application deadline comes just two months after Toronto successfully hosted the Pan Am Games and revived talk of a bid, and the federal election campaign also created uncertainty.

Tory has spent the last few weeks consulting and gathering information on the pros and cons of mounting a bid, which he has said should be “largely financed by the private sector.”

$60M

Amount the bid alone could have cost the city.

Premier Kathleen Wynne remained uncommitted Monday on the critical issue of who would pay for the Games.

“Ontario is not going to put itself forward and be on the hook for all of the costs,” she said. “We need to understand where the other levels of government will be. (Tory) needs to know where we and the feds would be — we need to know where the feds and the municipality would be.”

Last week, Hamburg and Rome formally submitted bids. Budapest, Paris and Los Angeles have also entered the race.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Premiere attraction

Kate Winslet arrives at TIFF for her new film The Dressmaker

More film-festival coverage in metroLIFE

LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

TIFF INSIDER | **Jessica Allen** For Metro Canada

Barrymore shines at Miss You Already celebration

Drew Barrymore really does hold her hands in prayer position to show gratitude, just as I’d hoped! She is also the most beautiful human being I’ve ever seen.

The actor, producer, winemaker — and Firestarter — was at Soho House on Saturday to celebrate the TIFF world premiere of Miss You Already with her co-star Toni Collette and director Catherine Hardwicke of Twilight fame.

Like watching fish in a bowl, the crowd observed the three women cosied up on a couch like old friends. And no wonder: The film about two best friends, which caused me to shed more tears than Terms of Endearment and Beaches combined, must’ve been an emotional shoot.

Watts happening — page 18

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Refugee crisis: EU countries tighten border controls. **World**

Commuters walk along Bay Street during rush hour in Toronto. But, after dark, it's a different story. MARTA IWANEK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Night and day on the Bay

DOWNTOWN

Survey looks at who works and lives in financial hub

By day, the population of Toronto's financial district swells to more than 200,000 people. But once the bank tower lights go down, only about 2,239 people actually live there, in about 1,500 households.

That's according to Census data crunched by Environics Analytics for the Toronto Financial District Business Improvement Area (BIA).

The BIA surveyed that daytime population to help it compile a statistical snapshot of the city's uniquely 9-to-5 neighbourhood. It shows that the folks who commute daily to Canada's financial services hub are an educated, multilingual commuter population with enough time to dine and a predilection for lunching near their desks.

The bank towers soar overhead, but much of the neighbourhood's vibrancy is underground, in the PATH system, the city's tentacled mall under the streets.

"It's a huge economic driver. It's a significant piece of the vitality here in terms of how the area works," said BIA executive director Grant Humes.

The BIA's area stretches roughly from Yonge Street west to Simcoe Street, and from Queen Street south to the GO tracks.

Surrounded by condos, the financial district is home to only three residential towers, two hotel-condos and another building under construction, says the BIA. The organization has been honing the district's distinct identity for about two years, creating a cohesive look with banners and signage and working with the city on public realm improvements.

The survey helps buildings, including the bank towers, think about their retail mix. "We've got a fairly limited space of about 15 square blocks," said Humes.

Humes said the survey confirmed many of his beliefs, but he was surprised that a full 35 per cent come from communities outside Toronto.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BY THE NUMBERS

A look at who works in the country's financial hub, based on 1,061 people:

55% Women
50% Married
95% Employed full-time
49% Commute more than 30 minutes one way
57% Work in the financial, insurance or real estate sectors
73% Use the PATH daily
52% Take a break of 30 minutes to an hour each day
24% Spend $100-$200 a month on fast food and restaurants in the area
18% Spend $200-$500 a month on fast food and restaurants in the area
2.5% Have an annual income of $500,000 or more
70% Have a bachelor's degree or higher education
28% Speak a language other than English or French
70% Use transit as primary commuting mode
14% Drove alone or carpooled to work

SOURCE: TORONTO FINANCIAL DISTRICT BIA WORKDAY POPULATION SURVEY.
RESULTS INCLUDE A 3.1% MARGIN OF ERROR

MEDIA

The Star launches new app for tablets

The Toronto Star launched Star Touch today, a free iPad app branded as an "innovative" and "interactive" way for readers to get news.

Offering exclusive content designed for display on tablets, the app will deliver fresh content by 5:30 a.m. daily.

"Star Touch gives us the greatest opportunity in generations to showcase stories in interactive ways that appeal to broad, highly-engaged young audiences," said John Cruickshank, publisher of the Toronto Star and president of Star Media Group.

"We've dramatically changed storytelling — combining the award-winning journalism of the Star with a sense of fun and entertainment."

Star Touch is based on the iPad app launched in 2013 by Montreal's La Presse newspaper, which attracts more than 460,000 readers every week.

Star Touch is available for download from Apple's App Store.

It will be available for Android tablets later this fall.

STEVEN GOETZ/FOR METRO

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EDUCATION

French teachers walk away

The union representing Ontario's 10,000 French-language elementary and secondary teachers says it has stepped away from the bargaining table after receiving what it calls an "unacceptable" offer from employers.

AEFO president Carol Jolin said in a release Monday that the latest offer was "not just and fair when compared to offers made to two English-language unions."

Jolin says the union is evaluating its possible course of action and hopes to come to an agreement before commencing work-to-rule on Friday.

Premier Kathleen Wynne angered the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario when she insisted it was up to the union to say why it won't accept an offer that was tentatively accepted by two other teachers' unions.

Agreements reached in August with the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation and the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association have not been ratified yet, but contain raises of 1.5 per cent plus another one-per-cent bonus.

Talks with the Elementary Teachers' Federation broke off again on Friday, despite what union president Sam Hammond described as "slow, slow progress" during seven days at the table. Wynne wants to impose a deal on the elementary teachers, the same way former premier Dalton McGuinty imposed a settlement with a wage freeze in 2012, said Hammond.

"Ms. Wynne might want a quick deal to help Mr. Trudeau's chances in the ... election, but we actually want a deal that works for teachers and students," he said. "We are waiting for the government to pick up the phone and return to the table as soon as possible," he said. "Let's stay out of the media and get back to the table and bargain."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

In addition to the mural along the alley wall, a plaque was also created to honour artists such as Jackie Mittoo and Leeroy Sibbles. COURTESY OF JIAWEN ZHOU

Reggae Lane mural pays homage to community

LITTLE JAMAICA

Eglinton laneway a cultural hub in the 1970s, '80s

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

The City of Toronto is renaming a laneway off Eglinton Avenue West in honour of the neighbourhood's history as an "epicentre" of reggae music.

Still known as "Little Jamaica," the neighbourhood was a hub for reggae in the 1970s and '80s, said Coun. Josh Colle. The street was lined with record shops and small recording studios and frequented by prominent reggae artists.

"It really was the epicentre of reggae music in the world outside of Kingston, Jamaica," said Colle, who pushed for the laneway to be renamed. "I wanted to make sure we commemorated this fantastic piece of history."

Colle and local residents will unveil a reggae-themed mural in the laneway on Saturday, as well as a Toronto Heritage plaque featuring artists like Jackie Mittoo and Leeroy Sibbles.

"It's like if you put Keith Richards and Paul McCartney together. For reggae music, that's how big (Sibbles) is," Colle said.

> **"If you had anything to do with reggae in the '70s or '80s, you were hanging out on Eglinton West.**
> Josh Colle

The new name is just the first step in revitalizing the alley. The non-profit Laneway Project has been working with the community to beautify the side street.

One day, it could be "a canvas for local culture," said Laneway Project co-director Michelle Senayah, but first some practical issues need to be addressed.

"It's pretty dirty and depending on the time of year, there can be cat-sized rats," Senayah said. "If you want to have community events in there, you have to get rid of the garbage."

The Laneway Project is also pushing the city to prioritize Reggae Lane for repaving and lighting repairs, Senayah said.

Colle feels the city needs to better utilize its laneways, but said the political will — and resulting resources — is lacking.

"What will probably do it are some successes," he said. "Reggae Lane could be a pilot project that people can look at and see how we took something that was a bit of a challenge and turned it into a positive."

CEREMONY

The official naming ceremony for Reggae Lane takes place 4 p.m. Saturday in the Green P lot at Eglinton and Oakwood avenues. The celebration will include music and walking tours of the area.

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More road tolls on radar: Report

TRAFFIC

Studies needed to determine impact on DVP, Gardiner: Staff

Tolls are being proposed for motorists using the Gardiner Expressway and Don Valley Parkway — the first serious suggestion of GTA road tolls since Highway 407 opened to controversy in the late 1990s.

Toronto's transportation manager Stephen Buckley says in a new report that electronic, automated tolling of the city freeways could pay all their costs, including rebuilding the hybrid Gardiner, potentially with money left over to help build new transit lines.

The city staff report envisions car drivers paying a flat fee of between $1.25 and $3.25 for a single trip along one or both highways, with trucks paying double that.

If city council opted for a 407-style distance-based system, car drivers would pay 10 to 35 cents a kilometre, with truck drivers paying double.

In June, while narrowly approving the hybrid proposal for the east Gardiner, city council asked staff to report back this month on tolling as a possible revenue source.

Buckley says a full study was not possible in that time frame. He wants city council to order his department to report back next year on "in-depth impacts on the network and particularly on parallel adjacent roads and facilities, impacts on the environment or how to address implementation issues."

Mayor John Tory "does not support tolling existing roadways," his spokeswoman Amanda Galbraith said.

His deputy mayor, Ward 34 Don Valley East Coun. Denzil Minnan-Wong, said the tolls might not sound high but the cost would be "substantial" for daily drivers and make Toronto uncompetitive compared to neighbouring municipalities.

$3.8 billion

Staff peg the 30-year cost of the Gardiner, including rebuilding the elevated link to the DVP, at $3.8 billion.

Paula Fletcher, the Ward 30 Toronto-Danforth councillor, said tolling the elevated section of the Gardiner is too good an opportunity for the city to bypass. Drivers can opt instead to take toll-free Lake Shore Boulevard, she said.

But Fletcher said the tolls need to be carefully applied.

"This is a good idea as long as it's modest. Nobody wants a big gouge like on Highway 407," said Fletcher.

Road tolls "is a conversation we need to be having," said Coun. Josh Colle.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Needless to say, the kids in the vehicle were late for school. PEEL REGIONAL POLICE/TWITTER

BRAMPTON

Driver races to the poles

Slow and steady wins the race.

One Brampton driver learned that lesson the hard way on Monday morning.

According to Peel Regional Police, the driver sped through a parking lot at Ray Lawson Boulevard and McLaughlin Road, crashing into two concrete poles around 8:20 a.m.

The driver was cutting through the parking lots of the strip mall to avoid waiting at the streetlights while taking his two children to school.

The vehicle ended up in a rather unique position.

No injuries were reported in the crash. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

POLICE REPORT

According to Peel Regional Police, the four-foot poles mark the beginning of a ramp for a nearby accessible parking spot.

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Wrongful Dismissal: When Employment is Terminated for Cause

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It is a sad but true reality that employment relationships do not always end on good terms. Employers frequently cite performance issues or some form of misconduct as a reason for dismissing an employee. This only adds to the stress and confusion faced by someone recently dismissed. In my experience working with employees, the decision to terminate an employee for "just cause" is almost always premature or otherwise completely inappropriate. If you have been terminated for cause when no proper cause existed, you have been wrongfully dismissed.

JUST CAUSE

So what is just cause dismissal? Just cause is when an employer is justified in ending the employment relationship without providing any severance to the individual. The dismissed employee may also not be able to collect employment insurance benefits and will likely experience difficulty finding other employment. This is a serious blow that can have a lasting effect for an individual. As a result, it is extremely difficult to terminate employment for cause. Typically only the most serious forms of misconduct such as theft or dishonesty would be considered just cause.

In dismissing the employee, the employer must not only prove that the misconduct existed but also that termination was the appropriate response. In most cases, termination of the employee is completely premature. For example, when an individual is terminated as a result of performance issues the employer has often not taken the necessary steps to document the poor performance or failed to provide the adequate training to correct the issues. It is also common that an employer has not properly investigated a workplace incident or brought forward the allegation to the individual for their side of the story. In either case, the employer would not be able to terminate the employment relationship without paying the appropriate severance and leaving the individual's dignity intact.

FULL DISCLOSURE & FAIR TREATMENT

Dismissal of an employee is too often an emotional process where an employer acts on isolated incidents or fails to fully appreciate the employee's side of the story. When an individual is dismissed with cause, they absolutely deserve full disclosure of the allegations made against them and fair treatment throughout the whole process – from the investigation stage up to the time of dismissal. In my experience, this is typically not what happens. In most cases, individuals are terminated for minor or one-off incidents and do not receive an opportunity to fully answer to the reasons for their termination. This leaves the individual without severance and all the other protections provided to employees who lose their jobs. That is a wrongful dismissal.

In any situation where an employee is dismissed with cause, I would encourage them to give me a call right away and have the situation surrounding their termination fully assessed. The consequences are simply too dire for the individual.

TERMINATED FOR CAUSE?

An employer would have to establish:

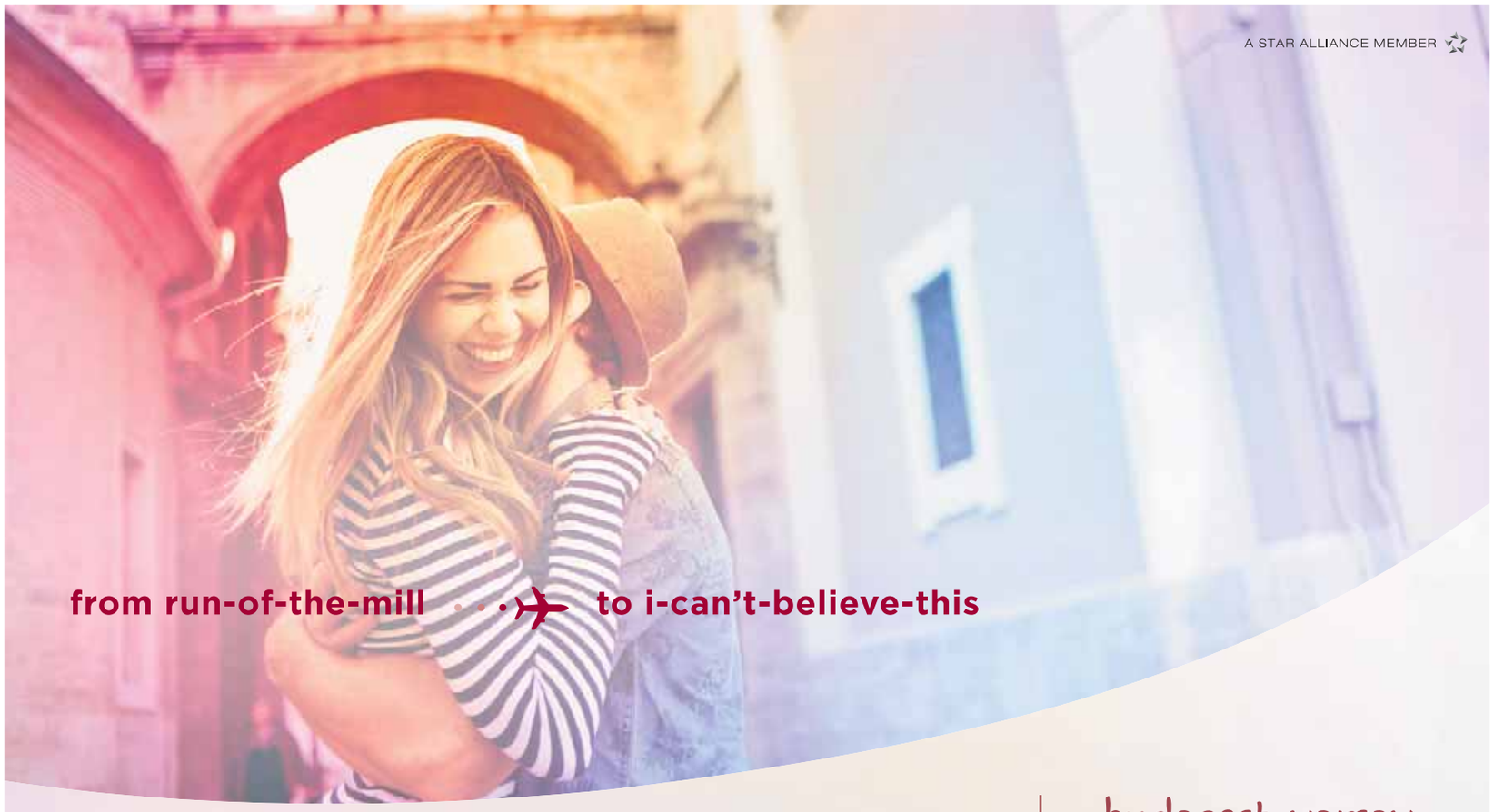
- That the employee was guilty of serious misconduct
- That the employee was given all opportunities to improve
- That there was prior warning and other discipline
- That there was absolutely no choice but to let the employee go

If the employer cannot establish all of the above conditions, but still lets the employee go, that employee is owed full severance. Remember, every employee is owed severance. Yes, even if you work for a small company and even if you only worked for a short period of time. Use the Severance Calculator to see how much you are owed (www.SeverancePayCalculator.com) and do not hesitate to call or email me.

Being terminated for cause is often illegal. You should never hesitate to pursue what you are legally owed.

Lior Samfiru is an employment lawyer and senior partner at Samfiru Tumarkin LLP. He is the host of the *'Employment Hour'* heard Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays on Talk Radio AM640.

Calculate the severance you are owed at www.severancepaycalculator.com



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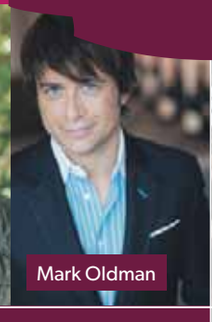
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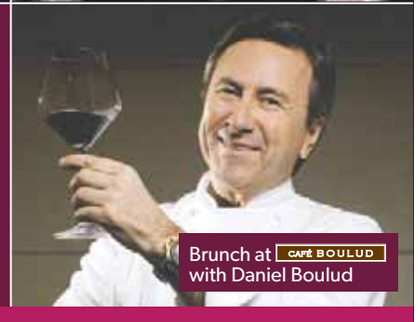
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White-power posters shock

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Website argues that 'Western peoples' need support group

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

Posters calling for the formation of a "White Students Union" at the University of Toronto have been taken down after student-union reps deemed them "triggering."

The posters featured an illustration of two blond men staring into the sky, flanked by the CN Tower. They directed people to a website supporting Students for Western Civilization.

A post on the site calls multiculturalism an "undemocratically imposed immigration/culture policy which is rapidly reducing white people to minorities" and says a white students' union "would serve as a platform to promote and advance the political interests of Western peoples."

Metro's request for comment from the group went unanswered.

Sania Khan, vice-president of equity for the University of Toronto Students Union, said she was made aware of the posters Monday morning. They also were reported on campus at York and Ryerson, she said.

Many U of T students come from non-white backgrounds and may have found the posters upsetting or "triggering," Khan said.

"It's just another thing racialized students on campus will have to worry about," she said. "We're constantly pushing against white-centric voices just to be heard."

Khan doesn't believe white students need more representation than they already have.

"If you look at our governing council at the University of Toronto, you'll mostly see older white men," she said. "Their voice is being heard enough."

Sania Khan, vice-president of equity for the University of Toronto Students Union, says racialized students on campus now have another thing to worry about. IMGUR

FEMINISM

Women rail against threats

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

The men's-rights movement at the University of Toronto is to blame for recent threats targeting women on campus, feminists charged Monday.

CUPE 3902's Women's Caucus organized a rally at Spadina Avenue and Bloor Street after threats to kill feminists and women were left in the comments sections of BlogTO articles in June and earlier this month.

About 200 women and male allies marched through the streets, chanting slogans including: "We are U of T; we fight against misogyny."

Coun. Kristyn Wong-Tam and NDP candidate Jennifer Hollett were among those who made speeches to the crowd.

Feminist Ashleigh Ingle spoke about how men's groups have changed campus in the past three years. Tensions have run high, she said, and feminists who've protested the groups have received death and rape threats.

"These threats that we're here to stand up against today, they didn't come out of nowhere," she said. "They are supported by an environment that is hostile and backwards and encouraged by these men's-rights misogynists on our campus.

"Though they hide behind a thin veneer of real issues, just below the surface is a vile and vicious misogyny," she continued. "Their goal is to blame all of the issues of people in society on feminism, and a component of that is to threaten and harass feminists into silence."

Justin Trottier, a founder of the men's-issues club at U of T and the associated Canadian Association for Equality, called the online threats "deplorable."

"We condemn in the strongest words any threats of violence or intimidation, as an organization that's active on campus and exists to promote free exchange of dialogue," he said.

He denied either organization is a "men's rights" group or anti-feminist.

"We would like to see the temperature turn down a little bit and for people to engage in positive, productive, constructive dialogue," he said. "It was never the goal to create a war or a gender war."

Ashleigh Ingle speaks at a rally on Monday organized by a CUPE 3902 group. METRO

Girl, 10, brings dream of learning to far-off places

CHARITY

Student has been raising funds through cupcake sales

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

At only 10 years old, Bella Black has already done her part to improve education around the world.

Black, a Girl Guide and Grade 6 student from the Malvern community, does it mostly with cupcakes — organizing an annual cupcake sale to build schools in places where they remain a distant dream for some kids.

It all started five years ago when Black, gearing up to go to kindergarten, took the meaning behind Free the Children founder Craig Kielburger's book — It Takes a Child — to heart.

"She said, 'Mom, I'm going to school, but I know there are kids who can't go to school so I want to make a big sale to help," said Helen Hatzis, Black's mother and a former humanitarian aid worker. "And I was like, Oh my God, who is this kid?"

From that point, the family got involved in making cupcakes and selling them.

Working with Free the Children, the efforts have helped build schools in Kenya, India and Haiti. This year's sale will happen Sunday at Malvern Collegiate Institute with the money going toward another school in Haiti.

Black knows about the earthquake that devastated the country a few years ago, and worries people may be starting to forget about the problems faced by people who live there.

"I feel like trying to make a difference is the best thing possible," she said.

Her fundraising has evolved over the years and now includes online outreach via emails and social media.

One day, she'd like to visit the schools — and children — her efforts have helped.

"It would be nice to get to know their names, read them books and maybe help them do their homework if they need help," Black said. "They could also teach me a lot. I'd love to know some of their languages."

CALL TO ACTION

- Bella Black plans to help build a school for each year she's a student.
- You can get more information about her efforts, including how you can help, by checking out Bella's Bake Sale on Facebook.

Bella Black has been selling cupcakes to help build schools around the world for half of her life. CONTRIBUTED

TRAFFIC

Speeds drop to 30 km/h

Slow down — speed limits on 387 kilometres of local city roads have been reduced to 30 km/h from 40 km/h within the Toronto and East York community council districts.

The change of pace was championed by Ward 22 councillor Josh Matlow and passed community council in June, and began Monday. A city report suggested it could help make streets safer, but also that changing the signs could cost $1.1 million. The city estimated that about 4,450 signs and 310 traffic signals would have to be changed, a process that could take about a year, according to city spokesperson Steve Johnston.

Not wanting to wait until next year's budget, Coun. Gord Perks moved an amendment that would allow wards to begin changing signs starting this week with Matlow's own Ward 22 St. Paul's.

The changes will affect Wards 4, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 32.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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School Safety Zone

Tips on how to Keep an Eye Out for Kids

School zones are busy spots and there's a lot going on and a lot to look out for as a driver.

Watch for school zone signs

No one expects you to know where every school is, but you are expected to watch for the signs letting you know when you're entering a school zone.

Reduce your speed

Speed limits around schools are always lower—slow down and obey the posted speed limit. The speed limit around schools is lower for a reason, so drive slowly because speeding in a school zone is strictly enforced.

Do not pass a stopped school bus

Never pass a stopped school bus when its red lights are flashing—no matter what direction you're travelling in. Disobeying this law comes with hefty consequences. Then there's the impact it'll have on your car insurance; this ticket is considered a major offence and will result in a major increase in your insurance premiums.

Do not pass other cars while in a school zone

No matter how slow the car is going ahead of you, do not pass it in a school zone. It's simply dangerous.

Obey the crossing guard

Obeying the crossing guard is not optional and disobeying comes with hefty fines. All vehicles must come to a complete stop and remain stopped until the children, and the crossing guard, are safely off the road. In Ontario, the ticket starts at $150 and three demerit points.

Common sense rules

Don't drive distracted. Always check for pedestrians when you're backing up, and keep in mind that kids could be present on any side of the vehicle. Avoid making U-turns as well. Be patient, and be ready to stop at all times.

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High-rise dating's a tall order

CONDO LOVE

Pro: A hotbed of singledom Con: What happens after

Sean Hoff hosts dinner parties for his neighbours — singles and couples — in Liberty Village. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sean Hoff moved to Liberty Village this summer seeking a fresh start in a "young, fun place" after a breakup.

"I think there's no other place in the city that is as welcoming and encouraging of meeting your neighbours — be them single or in couples," said Hoff, 31.

In July, Hoff started hosting monthly dinner parties for neighbours, bringing together a mix of couples and singles in a neighbourly move he never could have pulled off in his old King-and-Spadina area, he said.

It's not intended to be a matchmaking event, and while no singles have linked up romantically after dinner — so far as he knows — Hoff said the greatest outcome would be if he unintentionally matched up a couple who eventually got married.

In the age of Tinder, condo Facebook groups and ubiquitous apartment-dwelling, Toronto singles are bound to have a love match or two within their own building. But while there are a slew of positives that come with intra-building dating, there are also potentially love-life-ruining risks if singles aren't prepared for close-proximity romance.

Amanda Sarju, 34, was working out at her condo gym when she looked in the mirror and saw her ex-boyfriend, a neighbour, just two treadmills away.

The split was amicable and she assumed he'd say hi. But things got awkward, fast.

"This guy refused to look at me," she said. "He literally ran staring at the ground."

Sarju was leery about trying intra-building dating again, but didn't let the fears stop her from pursuing her current boyfriend — a man who lives in her Liberty Village condo complex whom she met through friends.

"It's convenient," she said with a laugh. "(If) we drank all our wine, I'll run down and grab a bottle of wine from my place."

She likes the luxury of having two apartments, of having her own space to retreat to.

And while the benefits outweigh the cons for Sarju, a business manager with a luxury car company, she said it takes maturity and desire for commitment to make neighbourly love last.

"If you're looking for something a bit more casual, yeah, it can come back to bite you in the ass," she said, imagining how awkward it would be to run into your one-night-stand in the elevator.

But while some intra-building daters find lasting love, others find themselves in murky waters.

> **If you're looking for something a bit more casual ... it can come back to bite you in the ass.**
> Amanda Sarju

"It's so tricky," said Kimberly Moffit, relationship therapist and head of KMA Therapy in Toronto. "At the end of the day, you probably don't want to pick up and leave your building just because a relationship didn't work out."

Moffit says it's important for singles to approach intra-building dating with their eyes open. There's always the possibility you might run into your recent hookup while on a date with someone else. And there's a risk that the relationship might become too comfortable too fast.

"It's really important to keep the intrigue going," said Moffit. "Give a good window in between dates ... so you're actually looking forward to seeing each other."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

WHAT TO DO

Things can get dicey when you date in your building.

To make sure you don't end up changing your gym routine just to avoid a fellow resident, we asked relationship expert Kimberly Moffit for tips to finding and maintaining condo love.

DO

Be Realistic: Things could end badly and you'll have to be prepared for the consequences — including awkward run-ins with your ex.

Look Up: Resist the temptation to flick through Tinder while waiting for the elevator. The love of your life could be beside you.

Be Social: Go to the building BBQ, hang out at the pool, be friendly at the gym. Talk to people.

DON'T

Surprise: Showing up at your paramour's apartment unannounced is "not polite," says Moffit. Plus, if you're not dating exclusively, you might be in for a surprise in the form of another person.

Shy Away: Don't write off someone just because they live in your building. Take a risk and give love a shot.

Overdo it: Try to spread dates a week apart, at least at the beginning. It'll help keep sparks flying, while maintaining the mystery.

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POLITICS

Monicker irks Vancouver Libs

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Toronto's status as the country's "most important city" became a political football Monday.

In Vancouver in the morning, Thomas Mulcair took a question in about Toronto's potential Olympic bid, and answered that the NDP wants "Toronto, Canada's most important city, to get that bid."

Mulcair has been calling Toronto Canada's "most important city" repeatedly, before and throughout the campaign.

"I make no bones about the fact that Toronto is Canada's most important city. That's a simple statement for me to make," Mulcair told Metro Toronto in March. "It's a simple fact. Toronto is Canada's most important city. It's the key driver of our economy. As Toronto goes, so will go the rest of our economy."

But Liberals took issue with that characterization when he said it in Vancouver Monday, and issued a news release to Vancouver media calling his statement "bizarre."

Hedy Fry TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"In one of the campaign's most bizarre pitches for support, Thomas Mulcair boasted today to a Vancouver audience that Toronto is Canada's most important city," the release said. "We all want to see Canada get the Olympics, but Mulcair's comments left Vancouverites watching, wondering, if they even made second class."

Hedy Fry, Liberal candidate for Vancouver Centre, is quoted in the release guessing that Mulcair "forgot which city he was in."

However, the NDP didn't seem bothered by the dig at their leader — a communication official tipped Metro Toronto off to the release, suggesting it would be of interest to our readers.

Homeless but still kickin' it

On a Monday in August, a particular soccer team met for its weekly practice behind a Hamilton high school. Canada's street soccer team prepared for weeks for the 13th Homeless World Cup, which happens in Amsterdam this week. The international, four-a-side soccer tournament is reserved for players, male and female, who are homeless or were recently living on the street and have checked into a drug or alcohol rehab program. Here are some of the players Canada has sent.

Dao Phan, 48

Phan said he was part of a wave of refugees, known as "boat people," who fled the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. He moved to the Philippines in 1985, to Ottawa five years later, and finally settled in Hamilton.

His pace and stinging shot belie his age. At a recent practice, he said he likes street soccer because it makes him feel young. "And it's nice to have new friends," he noted.

Phil Ruicci, 28

Ruicci grew up in Sault Ste. Marie. Soccer became his "No. 1 true love" in his early teens.

Street soccer was a way to combine his passion for the sport and his interest in helping the homeless, he said.

He started working with Street Soccer Canada after graduating from Brock University in 2010 in inclusive and therapeutic recreation. The world cup in Amsterdam will be his first as head coach.

"You run into so many people with so many different stories," he said. "I think it could happen to anyone at anytime."

Sufian Mohamed, 41, during a practice in Hamilton, Ont on Aug. 24 with other local men, some of whom are part of a shelter program. STORY AND PHOTOS: TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cece Palmer, 22

Palmer's mom kicked him out at 17 for going with the wrong crowd, he said. Three years ago, he "got into trouble with the law" and spent six months in a youth detention centre. He says his probation officer introduced him to street soccer.

In 2013, he went to the Homeless World Cup in Pozna, Poland, where he scored five goals in a row against Germany. He said he wants to play professionally one day and to learn carpentry. "I want to build my dream house. That's my goal."

Oraine Parish, 25

Parish was born in Jamaica and moved to Ancaster, Ont. in August 2005. He said he ended up at the Salvation Army shelter in Hamilton after his live-in girlfriend, who was expecting a child, died suddenly and he could no longer afford their rent.

Parish said he joined the team "to stay out of trouble." The fastest player in the squad, he prides himself on his ability to zip past defenders.

He said he can relate to his "brothers" on the team.

"A lot of stuff happens down here. We use soccer as a getaway kind of thing."

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Fiscal good news for Harper

ELECTION 2015

Balanced budget boosts Tory electoral prospects

Hard new numbers about the past performance of the economy gave way to crystal-ball gazing Monday on the campaign trail as the major party leaders all took a shot at forecasting the future.

For Stephen Harper, weeks of buffeting bad news was washed away by a report tallying the final budget bottom line for the last fiscal year: a surprise $1.9 billion surplus.

The timing of the 2014-15 surplus announcement from Finance Canada — the first after six consecutive budget deficits — couldn't be better for Harper, with the Conservative, NDP and Liberal leaders set to face off later this week in a Calgary election debate on the economy.

The shot of fiscal adrenaline had the prime minister in fine fettle at a Kamloops, B.C., campaign stop, where he brushed off the mild economic contraction that marked the first half of 2015 and asserted that robust growth and good budgetary times are ahead.

"I see zero to little risk that we will have anything other than a surplus for the second year in a row, based on the trajectory we are on," said Harper.

Across the country in Toronto, Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau was looking at the same numbers and reaching a very different conclusion.

"Mr. Harper has put us in deficit this year. As for last year's numbers, we know and we saw Mr. Harper underspending and making cuts to Veterans Affairs, to Aboriginal Affairs, to seniors in the billions of dollars so that he could balance the books in time for his election."

NDP Leader Tom Mulcair, meanwhile, called the 2014-15 surplus "good news for Canadians and it shows that the NDP's going to be starting off on the right foot by proposing to have a balanced budget, talking to Canadians about what we can accomplish together in health care (and) quality, affordable $15-a day child care."

Economic forecasts by campaigning party leaders are notoriously self-interested and suspect.

Harper was spectacularly wrong in October 2008 with his election campaign prediction that if Canada was going to suffer a recession, it would have happened by then. He also vowed not to run deficits.

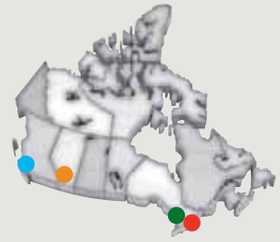
As it turned out, a devastating global economic meltdown was already underway and the Conservatives were already in deficit en route to a $55.6-billion shortfall in 2009-10 that was the largest in Canadian history. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Conservative Leader Stephen Harper speaks to supporters Monday in Kamloops, B.C.
RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

$1.9 billion

The federal budget surplus for FY2014-2015.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

WHERE THE LEADERS ARE TUESDAY



- **Justin Trudeau** will be in Waterloo, Ont.
- **Tom Mulcair** will be in Calgary and Lethbridge, Alta.
- **Elizabeth May** will be in Guelph, Ont.

Stephen Harper's itinerary was unavailable.

INFLUENCE PEDDLING TRIAL

Former Harper aide did it for escort girlfriend: Prosecutor

A former top aide to Prime Minister Stephen Harper was trying to help a girlfriend leave her escort past behind when he got involved in trying to persuade the government to buy water systems from a company that employed her, a court heard Monday.

Bruce Carson has pleaded not guilty to a charge of influence peddling in a trial that Harper's opponents are using to question the prime minister's judgment in making appointments.

The Ottawa court heard that Carson testified he was merely trying to help when he offered to assist an Ottawa-based company, H2O Water Professionals, in getting meetings in 2010 and 2011 with government officials.

But Crown Attorney Jason Nicol told the Ontario Superior Court of Justice Carson wasn't some altruistic figure trying to help H2O Pros clinch a deal to sell water purification equipment to First Nations communities desperate to fix tainted water problems.

Instead, Nicol said Carson wanted to help his then-fiancee, Michele McPherson, leave her former life as an escort.

"It's all about a pretty girl," Nicol said as he read from the thick binders of evidence presented at Carson's preliminary hearing.

Carson was a senior adviser to the prime minister from 2006 to 2008. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Exonerated teacher under Indonesian travel ban

Prosecutors in Indonesia have filed an appeal of a court decision which cleared a Burlington, Ont., teacher of child sexual offences in the Asian country.

Neil Bantleman, 45, had been serving a 10-year prison sentence when the August ruling resulted in his release, although he remained under a travel ban.

The latest step in his legal battle means Bantleman isn't allowed to return to Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

ALBERTA

Girl, 2, abducted, father found dead

An Amber Alert has been issued after a young girl was reportedly abducted from her home in a community 200 kilometres southwest of Calgary.

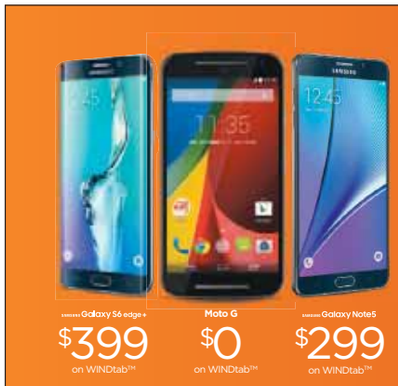
Crowsnest Pass RCMP say Hailey Dunbar-Blanchette, 2, was abducted by an unknown person today at 3:30 a.m. from the town of Blairmore, Alta. The suspect vehicle fled to the west, RCMP say, at a high rate of speed.

RCMP found the body of Terry Blanchette, 27, in his home. They are investigating it as a murder.

The suspect's vehicle is a newer model white van, with a large rear antenna and attached flag.

Blanchette is white, female, with a small build, light brown, straight hair with bangs and brown eyes.

Anyone with information is asked to call: Crowsnest Pass RCMP 403-562-2866.
METRO IN CALGARY



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Border checks up

metro The Syrian Crisis
The flight

A number of countries rush to stem flow of migrants

Migrants at Hungary's crowded border crossings with Austria and Serbia faced fear and uncertainty Monday as several European Union countries beefed up border controls in a precedent that could gut the bloc's cherished principle of free movement among most of its nations.

While Hungarian police patrolled their border fence on horseback and workers uncoiled the razor-wire and steel mesh that would finish it, Austria, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic and Slovakia all rushed to join Germany in tightening border controls.

The efforts created significant pressure points as the flow of people fleeing violence at home and trekking through the Balkans showed no sign of abating. "Hurry up! They're letting us through!" some shouted in Arabic at a checkpoint near Roszke, Hungary, as police blocked a rail line where thousands had entered the country, funneling the migrants to waiting buses.

Elsewhere, bottlenecks developed at the Austrian border town of Nickelsdorf, where a police spokesman said a main highway had to be closed because up to 10,000 migrants were crossing in from Hungary.

> **Hurry up! They're letting us through!**
> Person at a checkpoint near Roszke, Hungary

Germany's border checks also caused traffic jams Monday as long as 20 kilometres on highways in Austria.

German police said they will conduct rolling checkpoints on major roads coming from Austria but will not check every vehicle and driver for passports.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A woman and child look at a police officer as they board a bus after they were made to disembark a train in the southern German border town of Passau on Monday.
MARKUS SCHREIBER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MISSISSIPPI

Professor killed on university campus

A professor was killed in his office at Delta State University in Mississippi, and investigators are searching for another school employee in connection with the killing, officials said Monday.

Cleveland Police Chief Charles (Buster) Bingham said authorities have identified Shannon Lamb as a "person of interest" in the shooting of history professor Ethan Schmidt. Lamb is no longer believed to be on the Delta State campus.

Bingham also said police have information suggesting Lamb may have been involved in another slaying in the south Mississippi city of Gautier, about 580 kilometres away, where a woman was found dead in her home.

The 3,500-student university was put on lockdown amid reports of an active shooter. Everyone on campus was told to take shelter, away from windows.

Freshman Noah Joyner, 18, said he was shaken by the lockdown. Joyner hunkered down in a bathroom of his dorm building and heard others desperate to get in when reports of the active shooter spread.

"There were like people banging on the doors to have somebody let them in," said Joyner, a swimmer at the college. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Bangkok bombing suspect has fled to Turkey: Police
A key suspect in the bombing at a Bangkok shrine that killed 20 people has fled to Turkey, Thai police said, in another indication that the attack could be the work of members of China's ethnic Uighur minority who have sympathizers in Turkey. Investigations revealed the man, carrying a Chinese passport in the name Abudureheman Abudusataer, left Thailand on Aug. 16 for Bangladesh, and police speculated he might have gone to China. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gabriel, age 3, diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

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350 Grandravine Dr, Toronto, ON

SEPTEMBER 19 | 10AM - 12NOON
Trinity Presbyterian Church
2737 Bayview Ave, Toronto, ON

OCTOBER 3 | 10AM - 12NOON
Holy Rosary Church Hall
356 St Clair Ave W, York, ON

OCTOBER 7 | 7PM - 9PM
Metro Hall
55 John St, Toronto, ON

OCTOBER 8 | 7PM - 9PM
Riverdale Hub
1326 Gerrard St. E., Toronto, ON

OCTOBER 14 | 7PM - 9PM
Agincourt Baptist Church
37 Glen Watford Drive, Toronto, ON

OCTOBER 15 | 7PM - 9PM
St. Dunstan of Canterbury Anglican Church
56 Lawson Rd., Scarborough, ON

OCTOBER 17 | 10AM - 12NOON
Wilmar Heights Event Centre
963 Pharmacy Ave., Scarborough, ON

OCTOBER 21 | 7PM - 9PM
Weston Library
2 King St., Toronto, ON

OCTOBER 22 | 7PM - 9PM
Fairfield Seniors' Centre
80 Lothian Ave., Etobicoke, ON

OCTOBER 24 | 10AM - 12NOON
Humber Summit Library
2990 Islington Ave., Toronto, ON

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School supplies are featured at Staples replica dorm room desk setup during a back-to-school media event in Toronto. BRIAN B. BETTENCOURT/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

School a drain on parents' pockets

SHOPPING

Tab averages $3,000 to $4,500 a year, study suggests

For the Steinfelds, a family of six living in the Toronto area, buying school supplies for their daughter heading into Grade 1 wasn't as simple as shopping for a knapsack and a few pencils.

"Monster High pencils, My Little Pony erasers, Barbie-branded supplies is what she wants," says Daniel Steinfeld. "As the kids get older, they increasingly want what's 'cool'."

School supplies are just the onset of expenses that drain parents' pockets. Between lunches, clothes, extra-curricular activities and birthday parties, parents are likely to spend $3,000 to $4,500 a year, according to a 2013 Fraser Institute paper.

As children move into middle school and high school, expenses become more cumbersome, with cellphones and data charges added to the mix, says Sarah Widmeyer, head of Wealth Advisory Services for Toronto-based CIBC.

And more than 50 per cent of post-secondary students will end up asking their parents for additional financial support because they've run out of money, according to an August poll of 1,000 parents CIBC conducted.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Strong demand for new iPhones, Apple reveals

Preorders for its latest iPhone have been so strong that Apple expects to surpass last year's record, when it sold 10 million phones during the first weekend.

Apple began taking preorders for the iPhone 6s and iPhone 6s Plus on Saturday.

The new models, which go on sale Sept. 25, have more memory and faster processors, along with a new 12 mega-pixel camera. The phones have not gone up in price, but last year's record-selling iPhone 6 and 6 Plus models will now sell for $100 US less.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro VIEWS

That's nuts: Thanks to a warm winter and dire drought, some California pistachio farmers are reporting up to 90% 'blanks' — empty shells with no fatty green meat inside.

EMMA TEITEL: ON MILLENNIALS AND MISTAKES

No greater deterrent exists to youth involvement in politics than the current obsession with who said what or did what on the Internet.

Would you pee into a coffee mug? And if that coffee mug belonged to a complete stranger, would you rinse it out in his or her kitchen sink sans dish soap?

Thanks to a federal election rife with bizarre scandal, these questions have been weighing on my mind lately. And I've come to an uncomfortable conclusion.

It's (remotely) possible that I, too, like Jerry Bance, the former Conservative candidate and former contractor caught urinating into a homeowner's coffee mug on CBC's Marketplace in 2012, might urinate one day in the wrong receptacle. Because like Bance and his contemporaries — Canadian political candidates who have erred on camera and online — I am a human being prone to strange stupidity.

Like Ala Buzreba, former Liberal candidate in the riding of Calgary-Nose Hill who recently resigned from her post after it was revealed she made offensive comments on Twitter as a teen, I have written questionable things in a public forum (see this column).

Like Katherine Swampy, an NDP candidate running in Alberta's Battle River-Crowfoot riding, I have posted numerous regrettable photos and statements on Facebook. Swampy is in the hot seat this month for explicit comments she made on Facebook in 2011 and an Instagram photo — also outdated — in which her husband is seen pointing a gun the NDP has since claimed is a toy.

Mind you, unlike former Toronto-Danforth Conservative candidate Tim Dutaud (who, like Bance and Buzreba, has also dropped out of the race) I have never faked an orgasm on YouTube in the name of comedy. But tomorrow is another day.

It appears this election campaign is inextricably linked to a series of technology-driven scandals. And these scandals are disturbing not because they reveal a gross or grossly immoral streak in the political candidates involved, but because they foretell instant doom for anyone under the age of 30 who would like to get into politics.

CAREER DOWN THE TOILET **Like so many with indiscretions preserved online, former Conservative candidate Jerry Bance will forever be known for peeing in a homeowner's cup.**

SCREEN GRAB/CBC MARKETPLACE

Millennials — boomerang kids, ingrates, whatever the current term is for people aged 18-33 — are not universally prone to peeing in the wrong places and tweeting obscenities.

But considering that our digital trail was spawned in preadolescence, chances are that at least one of us has done one or more of these things (and worse) at some point, and that these indiscretions have been preserved, like dinosaur DNA, for eternity.

From where I sit, no greater deterrent exists to youth involvement in politics than the current obsession with who said what or did what on the Internet, especially when you said or did it in a fifth-dimension bizarro world — i.e. high school.

Couldn't a 20-something would-be prime minister purge incriminating material of herself from the Internet? I recently found a video on Facebook, in which I am obviously drunk and attempting to sing a Dubstep remix of a Hilary Duff song — a video I had no idea existed (maybe because I don't remember it happening), a video I have tried and failed to erase, repeatedly.

Missteps like Swampy's and Buzreba's will likely increase tenfold when younger generations start running for politics.

The difference though, is that when they do, good candidates — not just nutty fringe ones — will have to step away from promising careers for no other reason than that they are normal people with social lives and an Internet connection. Which is a shame because none of us, save for the truly prudish, partisan or humourless, is genuinely incensed when someone makes a stupid mistake in a public forum — a mistake that injures no one but him or herself (except in the case of Jerry Bance and the homeowner who, let us pray, did not drink out of that mug).

We could hope, of course, that there are so many Internet-driven scandals in the future that they cancel each other out; when everyone's dirty laundry is waving in the air it's imprudent to tell the person next to you he smells bad. But in case they don't, I'd like to propose a new system whereby we judge candidates not by their past mistakes but by the nature of their repentance. Given the opportunity to make things right, do they apologize sincerely and even gracefully, or do they prove to be as clueless and obnoxious as their initial sins indicated?

Are they contrite, or do they double down the same way disgraced Hydro One employee, Shawn Simoes of #FHRITP notoriety did? Chances are, had Simoes apologized immediately after City reporter Shawna Hunt called him out for being a boor, instead of suggesting she was lucky she didn't have a vibrator in her ear, his public shaming would not have been nearly as devastating, nor deserved.

Whether we like to admit it or not, clean slates are extinct. Here's to second chances.

Emma Teitel is a national columnist for the Toronto Star. She has been a front-of-the-book columnist for Maclean's magazine for the past four years, focusing on a wide range of subjects including women's issues and popular culture. She won the National Magazine Awards gold award for columns in 2013.

YOUR RIDE

Carelessly killing someone with your car is not an accident

Glyn Bowerman

How much is a life worth?

It's an uncomfortable question, but one we have to ask ourselves when negligent driving leads to injury or death.

A coalition of citizens, lawyers and advocacy groups is calling on the province to enact vulnerable road user legislation.

The coalition wants the maximum penalty for careless driving under Ontario's Highway Traffic Act increased from $2,000 to $50,000. Members would also like to see careless drivers who cause an accident forced to attend court and hear victim impact statements.

And the impact can't be overstated. Out of this public call for action came many heart-wrenching stories of lost friends and broken families.

I think we tend to forget these stories behind the headlines. Our eyes glaze over statistics. But we really have to take a good, hard look at the true impact of careless driving, if we're going to promote a safe mentality on our roads.

The City of Toronto already called on the province for such legislation, last July, in, surprisingly, a near-unanimous vote. The crucial elements of council's call for action include not only fines but driver safety education, community service and possible jail time.

The Ministry of Transportation seems open to the conversation, but points to legislation that came into effect this month introducing steeper fines for distracted driving, "dooring" cyclists or passing a cyclist with less than a one-metre berth.

That's just fine. But careless driving requires more than a monetary slap on the wrist. No one likes getting a ticket, but many people are likely to risk one.

According to a review of pedestrian deaths from Ontario's chief coroner, in a third of the cases where pedestrians were hit and killed, the driver had committed a traffic infraction at some point prior. In another review of cycling deaths from the same office, it was noted that 62 per cent of cases where a cyclist and motor vehicle collision resulted in death were, at least in part, caused by the driver.

Killing someone with a car as a result of careless driving is not an accident and should be considered criminal.

Out of this discussion, we've heard many tales of reckless driving resulting in deaths, where the driver walks away with a fine and never once sets foot in a court. The victim's families and friends are left to make whatever peace they can with the fact.

Whether you walk, bike or drive, I think we can all agree life in Ontario shouldn't come so cheap.

Rosemary Westwood will return.

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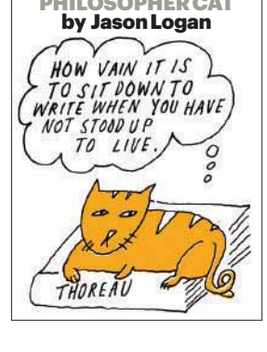

metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

Jean-Marc Vallée told TIFF media he wants to direct Amy Adams as Janis Joplin

Host hobnobs with the stars

TIFF INSIDER

Ever wondered what it's like to rub shoulders with celebs?

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Richard Crouse, left, hosted four press conferences during TIFF, including the one for Black Mass featuring Dakota Johnson and Johnny Depp. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

The backstage room at the TIFF Bell Lightbox's press conference area is a beehive of activity.

"Is George here yet?"

"Is that Johnny vaping in the corner?"

It's a place where no last names are necessary and the star wattage is blinding. Actors, directors, publicists and gofers mingle while air kisses, handshakes and Hollywood hugs are exchanged.

This year the Toronto International Film Festival is mounting 11 press conferences featuring everyone from Matt Damon and Sandra Bullock to George Clooney and Keith Richards.

I'm hosting four of them — Demolition, The Martian, Our Brand is Crisis and Black Mass — with, as MGM used to brag, "More stars than are in the heavens."

Despite the buzzy nature of the events, backstage is a casually chaotic place where actors get caught up with one another before taking the stage.

Matt Damon made the rounds, glad-handing with his The Martian cast mates, many of whom he hadn't met because he spent 90 per cent of his of screen time alone, stranded on Mars.

The business of the press conferences happens on stage. Moderating these things provides a fascinating glimpse into both sides of the publicity machine.

Ideally the press conferences are a reciprocal event: Reporters ask questions to actors and filmmakers they might not otherwise have access to, and in return the stars get publicity for their films. It's a pretty simple but often unpredictable transaction.

"Another A-lister, when asked if they had a good time the night before, cheerfully replied, 'They tell me I did,' while reaching for a double espresso.

Gone are the days of the legendary "journalist" who asked all her questions in rhyme, but for every sensible inquiry about the movie, there is inevitably another off-the-wall query that leaves panel lists either annoyed or scratching their heads.

At the Our Brand is Crisis conference someone asked Bullock about her character's grown-out roots. The Oscar winner replied as best she could and when she finished, Clooney chimed in, "Aren't you glad you asked that question?"

Later she shut down a silly query regarding how she keeps her bum as toned as it is in the film. "It's so sad that you just want to talk about the butt," she said, before tersely adding that leg lifts are the secret to posterior pertness.

Not that the attendees are the only ones to pull a gaffe or two. During the Demolition conference, I asked Chris Cooper a long, rambling question about his character. He seemed genuinely perplexed, and you know what? I was, too. Sometimes you can overthink these things.

Later at The Martian presser, there were 13 people on the stage, everyone from Michael Pena to Damon, Scott, Chiwetel Ejiofor and Jessica Chastain, and in the shuffle I made the horrifying mistake of forgetting to ask the great Sean Bean a question and didn't realize it until we were out of time.

Who doesn't acknowledge Lord Eddard Stark?

Me, idiotically. Next year I promise to go to him first and frequently.

BLACK MASS PRESS CONFERENCE

Johnny Depp is shocked to learn there is no Santa Claus

Johnny Depp in his new movie Black Mass. CONTRIBUTED

At a Toronto International Film Festival press conference, Depp was asked about playing the gangster James (Whitey) Bulger in his new movie Black Mass and how it felt to portray a real person.

"You mean the Mad Hatter never existed?" Depp deadpanned with faux concern. "Or Willy Wonka? Are you going to tell me there's no Santa Claus now?"

Depp eventually said he did his homework for the role, from researching the real-life Bulger's crimes to making sure he had the right accent and the right look and mannerisms for the part.

"When you're playing a fictional character ... you can stretch it out into all kinds of strange places, which I've taken a lot of heat for," Depp said with a laugh.

"But when you're playing someone who existed or exists, there's a tremendous kind of amount of responsibility, at least for me, no matter whether they're deemed good or bad or whatever, you have a responsibility to that person.

"You also have a responsibility to history and truth to some degree, so that was very important going in."

Depp said the makeup team took a cast of his face and built five or six different models in experimenting with how to transform the actor into a Bulger lookalike.

"Much to the chagrin of probably the producers and money people, it was a couple of hours in makeup every day," Depp said.

Director Scott Cooper said he was a longtime fan of Depp's work and was thrilled to witness him transform into Bulger.

"Johnny physically transforms for all of his parts and we knew that we would get this look right. But as a fan of Johnny Depp ... the big transformation for me was a man who was very soulful and kind and gentle and very thoughtful — 'Yes, you,'" Cooper said directly to Depp — "to see him transform into a man who was cold and cunning and chilling at times, some would say diabolical ... was mesmerizing to watch." THE CANADIAN PRESS

'ROUND THE CLOCK A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A TIFF PHOTOGRAPHER

For every orchestrated photo opp at the Toronto International Film Festival, a swarm of activity goes uncaptured. Here are a few candid moments from a dawn-to-dusk spree around the city, that capture the festival in its naturally chaotic and colourful state. **PHOTOS AND TEXT BY LIZ BEDDALL, METRO TIFF**

1 8 a.m,
A member of the press replenishes her caffeine supply in the TIFF Industry Lounge.

2 Noon
A TIFF staff member poses in front of a backdrop to help photographers test their light before a press conference photo opp.

3 3:30 p.m.
Director Deepa Mehta takes a quick phone call at the Mongrel House pre-party for the red carpet premiere of Beeba Boys.

4 7:30 p.m.
Ben Mulroney preps with his etalk team before interviewing the A-listers.

5 9:30 p.m.
A photographer uploads and edits while being held in Roy Thomson Hall's media pit after a red carpet premiere.

6 Midnight
Canadian film director Jean-Marc Vallée takes over the turntables at the Canadian Film Fest bash, hosted by The Fifth Social Club.

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TIFF | Party insider

A run-in with Watts and celeb karaoke

Jessica Allen
For Metro Canada

After downing Grey Goose's twist on a gimlet — a Leading Lady — and approximately 57 meatballs, I raced to the celebration at Patria for About Ray, a film about a youth (Elle Fanning) struggling with her gender identity that also had its TIFF world premiere on Saturday. With my head hung low and crushed that I'd just missed Susan Sarandon, I nearly ran into the back of a woman in a fabulous fuchsia suit saying goodbye to…oh God ... to Harvey Weinstein. "You're tenacious," the executive producer told her and oh God, she turned around and it was Naomi Watts.

The night ended at Byblos where Ethan Hawke, sporting the TIFF male celebrity tapered pants uniform, and Greta Gerwig, sporting spectacular short red hair, celebrated the world premiere of Maggie's Plan with director Rebecca Miller, sporting, if you ask me, the best top at the party. I had my fingers crossed that co-star Julianne Moore might join them, but word is she was at Soho House for a private event (no TIFFholes) with the likes of Eddie Redmayne and Tom Hardy and at The Thompson (not invited) with Jessica Chastain. Miller's husband Daniel Day Lewis wasn't there, either, although considering he's a chameleon-like thespian, I like to think he was and nobody was the wiser.

Sunday night was hit and miss: Nicholas Hoult, who took off his jacket to bust a move to Jolene, was at Soho House after the premiere of Equals, a film set in a dystopian future where emotions have been engineered out of our genomes — basically, like me at a TIFF party. But his co-star, Kristen Stewart, who had a flight to catch after the gala, was a no show. Fine by me, because I was obsessed with a man who I was certain was Stanley Tucci. Should I tell him how much I love his cookbook, particularly the potato salad? Good thing I refrained because it was executive producer Russell Levine.

Things ended on a high note at Byblos for the post-gala party for High-Rise, based on the 1975 J.G. Ballard novel. Although the cast, including Jeremy Irons, Luke Evans and Tom Hiddleston, rolled in way after midnight, I wasn't about to leave considering my blunder from the night before: At 1 a.m., my friend suggested a nightcap at Mongrel House, which I declined, which meant I missed Geoffrey Rush singing karaoke (Love Shack, obviously.)

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

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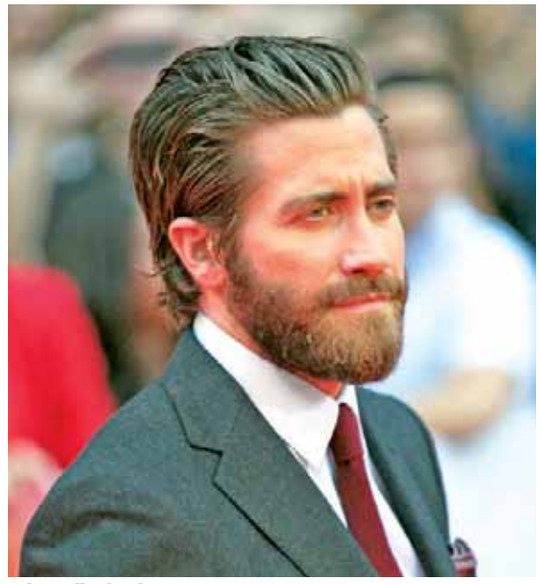


Jake Gyllenhaal. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

GOSSIP

Jake squawks over chicken sandwiches

What do Jake Gyllenhaal and the late 60 Minutes grump Andy Rooney have in common? A knack for complaining, apparently. At least when it comes to KFC.

While promoting his Toronto International Film Festival premiere of Demolition, Gyllenhaal copped to a youthful turn at letter-writing when the fast food chicken chain discontinued his favourite menu item.

"When I was a little child, I was at school and we were supposed to learn how to write letters and complaint letters. And so I decided to write to Kentucky Fried Chicken and tell them that I was upset that they had discontinued Chicken Littles, which were a particular type of mini hamburger with fried chicken in the middle of it," Gyllenhaal admits. "It was deeply upsetting to me at the time and I felt like they should bring them back."

KFC did in fact bring them back, but not until 2012. Still, a delayed victory is a victory.

"I think I indirectly had something to do with that," he jokes.

"It's empowering and I encourage most people, if they can, to really express themselves and bring back whatever they feel like has been taken away from them in their lives. In my case, really important things like fried chicken. Seriously." NED EHRBAR, METRO TIFF

Rob Reiner's rom-com

INTERVIEW

Director bemoans our sex and superhero obsession

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | TIFF

Rob Reiner is having a pretty great time at the Toronto International Film Festival, between debuting his most personal film to date, Being Charlie, and teaming with Jason Reitman for a special live-reading of The Princess Bride for festival audiences.

But that doesn't mean he can't be a grouch about what's happened to Hollywood lately.

So what does the man who brought us When Harry Met Sally think of the current state of the romantic comedy?

"I think the state of any movie that isn't a franchise at the studios is basically dead, and all of the genres — whether it's romantic comedy or it's an adult drama or it's a thriller — whatever the thing is, it's got to be financed independently," he says.

"It's all in the independent world, because studios are not making any of those kinds of films. They just don't do them."

Studios instead are focusing on franchise pictures at the expense of everything else, he argues, with budgets for tent poles ballooning while others shrink.

"Everything's $200 million or $2 million. It's crazy," he says.

"If you don't have the word 'man' or a number in the title — Iron Man 2, Spider-Man 4, whatever — it's got to have a man and a number — then you can make the movie. If you don't have those, you can't make the movie."

In addition, Reiner sees some problems with what's happened to the romantic comedies that are getting made, regardless of studio proclivities toward superheroes.

And let's just say he's not that impressed with Amy Schumer or Judd Apatow.

"The romantic comedy now, first of all they're R-rated now and they never used to be.

"Now because of the audiences, they've ratcheted up the violence and they've ratcheted up the sex, and they keep doing that to get audiences to come into the theatre," he explains.

"Everybody's having sex. It's like soft-core porn, you know? They're all R-rated. And now because of technology, whether it's Tinder or online or whatever, it's that kind of thing.

"What's that one now with Jason Sudeikis and Alison Brie? Sleeping With Other People. Trainwreck is the Amy Schumer (one). It's that same kind of thing."

Rob Reiner and Rachel McAdams looking charming at TIFF. GETTY IMAGES

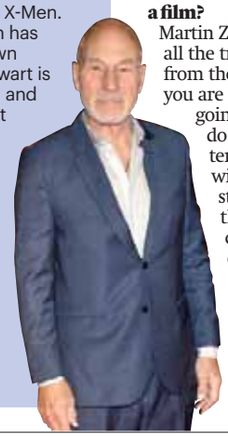
TIFF BRIEFS

Child star only known by classmates for his work on Smurfs 2

There's much hype surrounding Room, which has its Canadian premiere at the TIFF on Tuesday, but star Jacob Tremblay of Vancouver admits his friends are oblivious. "They only know about one thing, that I'm in Smurfs 2, because Smurfs 2 is the only kid movie I've done," said the eight-year-old actor, his feet dangling from a hotel room chair during an interview. "But all the other ones are for adults. So they don't know what I've been in."

Patrick Stewart boldly goes in a new direction

Patrick Stewart wants you to forget about Jean-Luc Picard and Charles Xavier — if only for a little while. After years of playing two career-defining characters, the 75-year-old actor says he's on the hunt for roles that distance him from Star Trek: The Next Generation and X-Men. "The perception has grown and grown that Patrick Stewart is these two guys, and I'm not," Stewart said. He said that's why he was immediately drawn to the role of a vicious neo-Nazi club owner in the thriller Green Room, which screened at TIFF. THE CANADIAN PRESS



WWII mined for a new story

INTERVIEW

Director chose very young actors to play German POWs

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | TIFF

Danish director Martin Zandvliet's Land of Mine finds a new viewpoint on the Second World War: the months immediately following Germany's surrender during which German POWs were made to clear Danish beaches of nearly two million unexploded land mines. His film focuses on one extremely young group of prisoners under the command of a hard-nosed Danish veteran (Roland Moller), and the youth of the POWs was completely intentional.

What goes into crafting a constant sense of danger in a film?

Martin Zandvliet: You use all the tricks you can, but from the very first page you are aware where it's going to go, so how do you make this tension? You do that with sound and sticks and everything and make us care for these boys, even though you're only with them for a short amount of time.

And Roland, you're playing a very complex and satisfying character arc.

Roland Moller: I could recognize myself and my own life in the story. I have a past where I was walking a little bit in the dark, and now I'm walking toward the light, and it's the same development my character has in this movie.

You'd think we'd told every WWII movie, so how did you find a new one?

MZ: I think it was very important for me to go against that. In Denmark and America we tell the same stories. Tarantino does it in a different way, so he's very good at telling the same story again because he does it his way so it's totally enjoyable. In Denmark we have a certain way of portraying us as the good guys and the Germans as the bad guys, and I always knew that we did some bad things, too, and we needed to tell those stories. I think we as humans should learn from our mistakes. So it's how do you make it not dusty, how do you make it not just another WWII movie that we've seen before? So we tried to work a lot with characters instead.

RM: I think the interesting thing is we all have good and evil sides. Here we're playing with a bit of both, and that's interesting for me because that's how we are as humans. And another lesson for me is that when you fight monsters you must be aware that you don't become one yourself. Nietzsche said that when you glance into the abyss, the abyss also glances into you, and I think that's the whole involvement around this movie — at least my character.

Actors Emil Buschow, Roland Moller and Oskar Buschow at the after-party for the premiere of Land Of Mine. GETTY IMAGES

MZ: But it is a fine balance. I remember when I wrote it, it was always about, "Remember not to point fingers. Remember not to make too much sympathy toward the Germans because they did some horrible things." So it's always a fine balance. I totally believe they should clear the mines. Who else should do it? Should the Danes do it? No, why? But you could've chosen adults, you could've taught them how to do it or you could have given them more time.

RM: You could've fed them (laughs).

MZ: On the other hand I totally understand the hatred toward them. And then on the other hand I am pointing fingers because I think we as humans, like Roland says, we shouldn't become monsters ourselves. It is what happens in every aftermath of war — like Guantanamo — then suddenly we become what they are, which is not the solution. It gives birth to something much more terrible than we can't imagine.

As far as that balance, how important was it that they characters were so young?

MZ: That was a choice from the beginning. I walked around in cemeteries, hospitals, found facts about how many children were there. Of course there were a lot of men.

There were 2,000 Germans there and maybe 200 or 250 of them were actually boys. But it's to, of course, make a point.

BEING CANADIAN

Rob Cohen tackles the canards of being a Canuck

In Being Canadian, Los Angeles-based comedy writer and director Rob Cohen seeks to dispel, or at least poke fun at, some of the myths about being Canadian.

A native of Calgary, Cohen takes a cross-country road trip, tackles the assumption that all Canadians are "nice," examines their perennial inferiority complex relative to Americans, and unravels why for much of its history, the Canadian Football League had only eight names for its nine teams. Since this reporter is also a Canadian based in Los Angeles, we probed the depths of Cohen's Canadian-ness with our own list of questions.

What's your favourite memory from the 1988 Calgary Olympics?

It was watching Alberto Tomba win the men's giant downhill right in front of me. I climbed the hill, got to the finish line and thought it was a crappy spot. And then Alberto Tomba won, and swished to a finish right there.

Canadians are all nice, and other myths.
NICK UT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Where were you when Wayne Gretzky was traded to the LA Kings?

I was sadly here in LA. As a Calgarian, I was thrilled. As a Canadian, I couldn't believe it. It was like our Princess Di accident. I literally made a bet with my friend that it would never happen and I felt so cocky. And then he got traded.

How's your French?

Terrible. My French stopped in Grade 8. I know "un petit peu." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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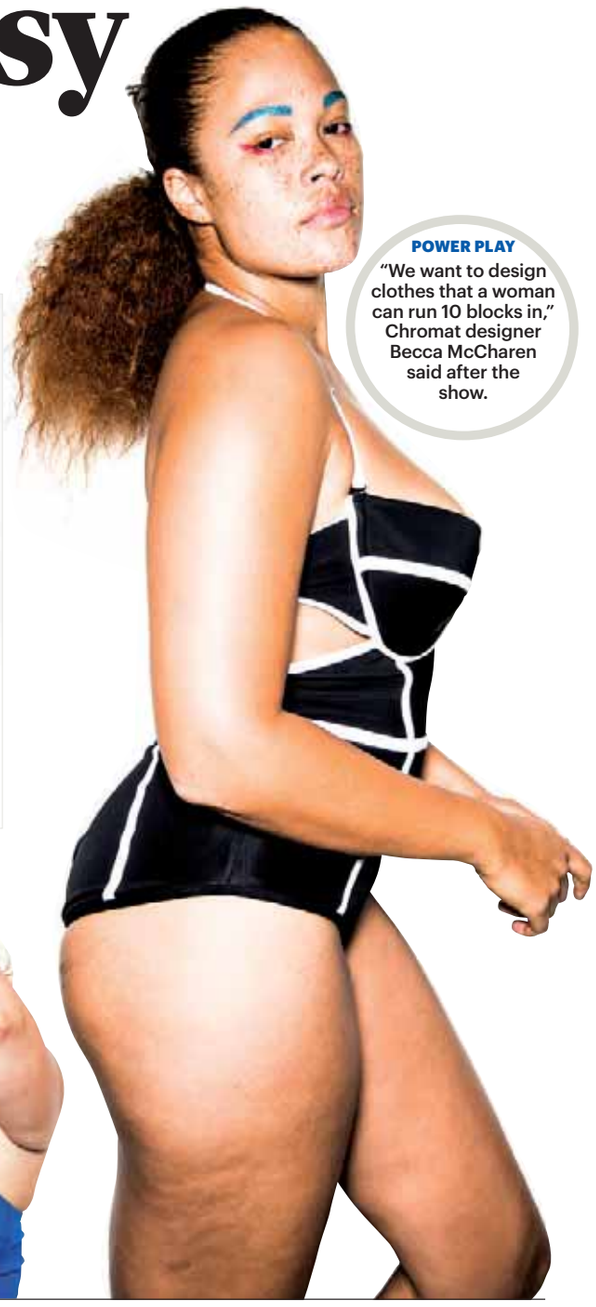
ROBERT SCHAD NATUROPATHIC CLINIC

Futuristic fantasy

Flesh-baring designs and technology rule at Chromat, a designer brand with fans like Beyoncé, Taylor Swift and Madonna



POWER PLAY
"We want to design clothes that a woman can run 10 blocks in," Chromat designer Becca McCharen said after the show.

Models of all sizes strutted at the Chromat show at New York Fashion Week this past weekend, donning the line's signature pieces which include bikinis, dresses, sportswear and structured cages.

"We want to design clothes that a woman can run 10 blocks in. That's always the goal: To make people feel strong and that they can do anything," said designer Becca McCharen, who is also an architect. "It's always been strong, powerful women in every field and every body size, every gender spectrum."

Black, red, blue and white dominated the collection, which also featured pieces that used Intel technology to change the shape of the garment depending on various elements such as the body temperature.

"The collection was inspired by how we can use sportswear to power the body and how we can make the body stronger through clothes," said McCharen. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

NEW YORK FASHION WEEK

The playful buzz of spring at Kate Spade

Kate Spade's sweet ice cream truck clutch. GETTY IMAGES

Kate Spade created the chicest corner store in town for the brand's New York Fashion Week presentation.

"It's a celebration of when that spring finally breaks and you run to the bodega for your first flowers — bees are buzzing," said Deborah Lloyd, Kate Spade chief creative officer.

The presentation space was flooded with colourful flowers and guests were treated to mini bouquets of fresh cut roses along with bagels and coffee.

Models wearing bright yellows, corals and pinks held playful wicker hand bags shaped like bees, puppies and teapots.

Actress Anna Kendrick was on hand for the spring-themed soiree.

Though she's appeared in Kate Spade campaigns, the Pitch Perfect star said she's no fashionista.

"No, not at all," said Kendrick. "I always feel like I'm never really clear on some of what is going on in fashion and I like that Kate Spade is really accessible and it sort of has a sense of humour about itself. It doesn't take itself too seriously."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AHOY KITSCH

Edie Parker takes funky acrylic clutches to sea

Acrylic clutch bags for the Instagram age took an oceangoing turn down in Soho, thanks to Edie Parker founder and designer Brett Heyman.

She put colourful, squiggly jellyfish, shells, hula-skirted ladies and anchors on her spring collection, mixing her signature playful acrylic with raffia, linen and wicker. And she didn't scrimp on the wordage, which some love to hate, offering Chillax, Gay and Ahoy.

Heyman's bags are all over red carpets, with her kitschier versions also drawing celebrity attention.

"This is a funkier collection," she said. "I think someone with a fearless style would be good."

Like Gwyneth Paltrow?

"She has a bag of mine that says Baller. I love that she bought that," Heyman laughed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jason Wu puts his own spin on 1950s feminine

ON THE RUNWAY

Ruffles and fringe feature heavily in designer's show

Ruffles can be flouncy and fanciful, but they can also be understated and sophisticated, as they were for Jason Wu at his New York Fashion Week runway show.

The Taiwanese-Canadian designer — who's famous for producing both of Michelle Obama's inaugural gowns — went for muted colours like forest green, rust, and trusty old black, although he mixed it up with some bright fuchsia and shiny silver, too.

The show had a mid-century feel, inspired by both furniture and photographs of the period.

Wu also favoured fringe, as in his first garment down the runway — an elegant fringed coat in that deep forest green.

Backstage, Wu said he felt "very, very inspired" for this collection — by themes like mid-century furniture and the photographs of John Rawlings, a prominent fashion photographer who worked from the 1930s to the 1960s.

"I wanted to kind of put that forward in a modern way through my (own) lenses," he said.

Wu also noted that it was fun to be among the earlier shows at Fashion Week, which runs through Sept. 17.

"It's always good to be one of the first to show," he said. "I kind of feel like we kick the season off."

Among Wu's front-row fans on Friday: actress Patina Miller, a Tony winner for Pippin who's also featured in the CBS drama Madam Secretary and in the Mockingjay movies.

"I love that he just thinks of everything, you know?" said Miller, who was wearing a deep blue Wu creation.

"It's relaxed, it's beautiful, but it's always so chic and there's sort of a simple quality to the stuff that's really amazing, that I am drawn to. And I just think he gets it right."

Wu set up his label in 2006 but famously hit the big time when First Lady Michelle Obama wore one of his gowns to the inaugural ball in 2009.

Today his clothes are sold by more than 170 retailers worldwide, and worn by the likes of Oscar winners Reese Witherspoon and Julianne Moore, and model Christy Turlington.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE LOOK

An edgy take on glamour

Sophisticated style is what Jason Wu is all about.

Here are some of the highlights from his show:

- Wu called his collection "glamour" channeling the looks of the 1950s.
- Wu says he wanted a ruffle that wasn't overly "prissy" and paired the feminine look with frayed edges and fringing.
- Ruffles featured at the hems of skirts, on the shoulders and around the throat of his designs.
- Another standout was Wu's sharply tailored summer suiting with fringed micro shorts. AFP

Jason Wu's key colours were dark forest green, dark rust and a little bit of pink. ALL PHOTOS: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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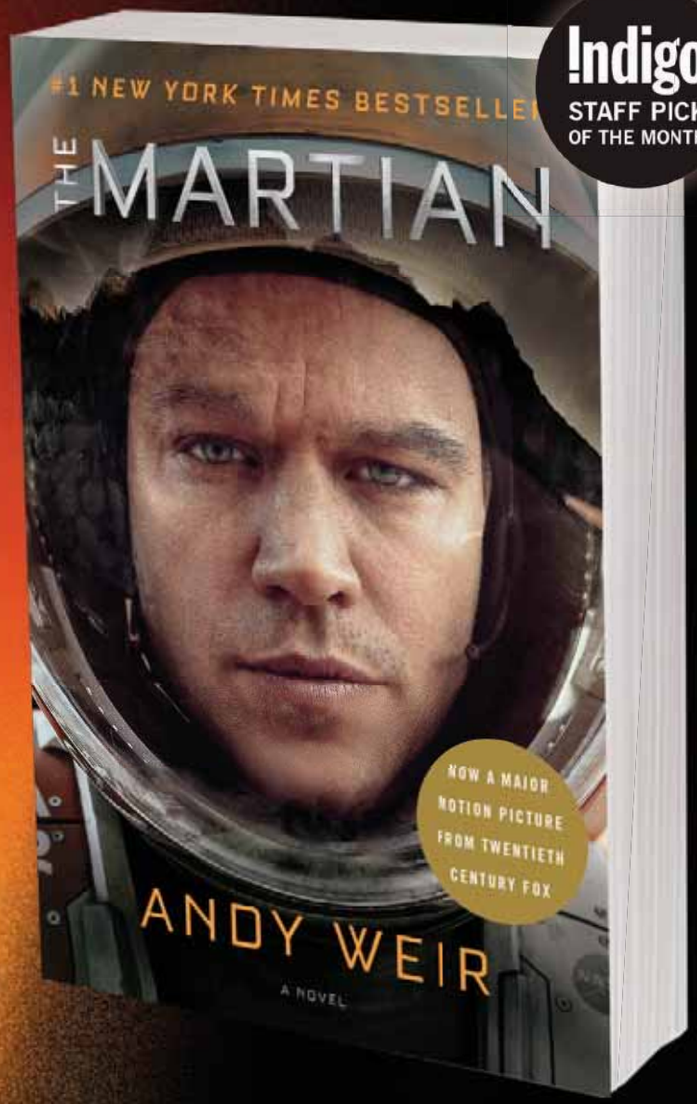

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GOSSIP BRIEFS

Page brings GF to TIFF

Ellen Page brought a date to the premiere of her new movie Freeheld on Sunday night in Toronto, marking the red-carpet debut for the Canadian actress and girlfriend Samantha Thomas.

"I'm in love!" gushed Page to E! news about her relationship with Thomas, a multidisciplinary artist.

A photographer at the premiere remarked that Thomas' hand seemed fused to Page's back, and that every turn they made to the cameras they made in perfect sync. The petite actress also seemed much more at ease with Thomas by her side, and posed with her for quite a while before quickly allowing the photographers to grab a few shots of her solo. METRO

Thomas and Page on the red carpet at the Freeheld premiere. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

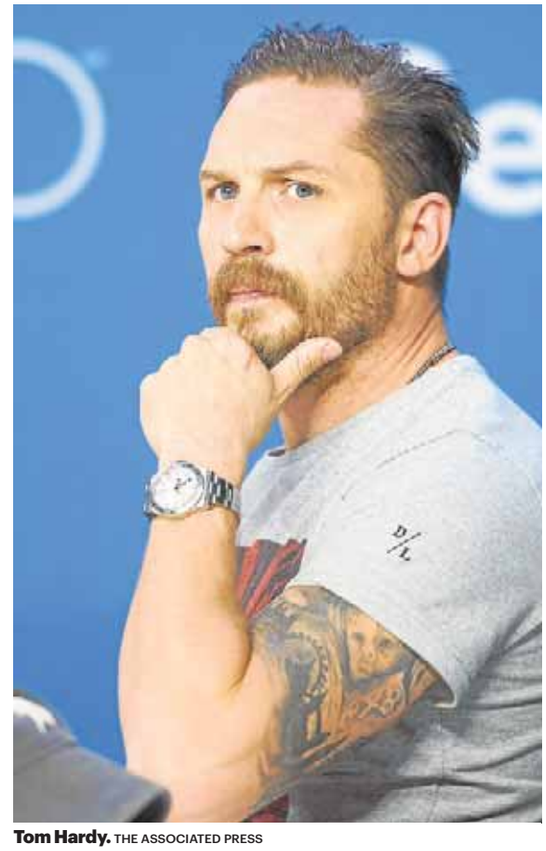
Bieber schooled by the pool

Justin Bieber, noted for always having something to prove, is facing some public embarrassment for getting schooled by pal Sam Shahidi in a beer-shotgunning contest at a pool party in Las Vegas. Just typing out that sentence means I need to get myself checked for hepatitis C.

Never one to shy away from defeat, some people's favourite Canadian posted a video of the challenge to Instagram, dismissing his failure with the caption, "I lost but I didn't go to college."

That's his excuse for everything. NED EHRBAR/METRO

GETTY IMAGES



Tom Hardy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tom tired of gay mag retread

JUNKET

Hardy is sick of explaining a misquote from seven years ago

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | TIFF

> **I don't find it difficult for celebrities to talk about their sexuality. Are you asking me about my sexuality?**
> Tom Hardy

Tom Hardy is really tired of all this talk about quotes of his in a gay magazine back in 2008 that many took as an admission that he's bisexual. Like, really, really tired.

Just look at how he reacts to a pesky reporter bringing up the topic once again at the Toronto International Film Festival press conference for his film Legend, in which he plays twin gangster brothers Ron and Reggie Kray — one of whom is gay.

"In the film, your character Ronnie is very open about his sexuality but given interviews you've done in the past, your own sexuality seems a bit more ambiguous," the reporter asked.

"Do you find it hard for celebrities to talk to media about their sexuality?" What followed was a bit of a tense back and forth, starting with Hardy asking, "What are you on about?" before the journalist tried reiterating the question.

"I don't find it difficult for celebrities to talk about their sexuality. Are you asking me about my sexuality?" Hardy asked. "Why?" And then he capped it off with a curt "thank you."

metro SPORTS

Paul Pogba and Juventus travel to Manchester City as UEFA's Champions League group stage gets underway today

Donaldson on pace for best season in Blue Jays history

MLB

Third baseman posting gaudy numbers in a pitchers' era

After keeping pace with Mike Trout through the first half of the season, the Blue Jays' Josh Donaldson has spent the last two months separating himself from the reigning American League MVP while solidifying his own case to win the award this season.

Since the all-star break, Donaldson has 17 home runs and 59 RBIs while posting a 1.085 on-base-plus-slugging percentage, while Trout has nine homers, 22 RBI and an .869 OPS.

So barring an otherworldly final few weeks from Trout, Donaldson should become just the second player in Blue Jays history to win an MVP, the first since George Bell in 1987.

But Donaldson — who leads the majors in runs scored, RBIs and extra-base hits while sitting third in home runs — is also on pace to put together the best individual season by a position player in Jays history. With 19 games remaining he is already tied for the highest single-season Wins Above Replacement total ever by a Blue Jays hitter, using Baseball Reference's formula, and is just 0.1 behind the franchise record using Fangraphs' formula.

The 29-year-old third baseman won't break Jose Bautista's 2010 franchise record of 54 home runs or Carlos Delgado's 145-RBI mark set in 2003, but when you consider the pitching-dominant era in which Donaldson is playing, his numbers become all the more impressive. He also ranks among the top-five defensive third baseman in baseball this season and, while he doesn't steal many bases, he has contributed significantly to the Jays offence with his base-running, according to advanced metrics.

So whether you're into old-school, back-of-the-baseball-card stats like batting average and RBIs or new-fangled analytics, Donaldson can make either case for the best season by a Jays position player ever.

And in a few weeks he could have the hardware to prove it.

For now, let's look at how he stacks up against other Jay greats:

OLD-SCHOOL STATS

If he keeps up his current pace through the final weeks of the season, Donaldson will have 43 homers, 135 RBIs and 124 runs to go along with his .305 batting average.

Those first three numbers would put him in fifth, third and second, respectively, on the Jays' all-time, single-season lists.

His very-good-but-not-great batting average, meanwhile, would tie Adam Lind's 2009 Silver Slugger campaign for 26th-best in team history. Individually, none of the numbers rank as the franchise's best, but taken together, and particularly when you adjust for era — teams scored about half-a-run more per game in 2003 than they have this season, for instance — you can see why Donaldson's season is considered among the best.

NEW-SCHOOL STATS

This is where Donaldson really separates himself. Using Wins Above Replacement — which aims to quantify all aspects of a players' contributions to his team against those of a replacement-calibre fill-in — Donaldson has already matched the top individual seasons in Toronto's history: John Olerud's 1993 campaign and Bautista's in 2011. In the majors this season Donaldson trails only Washington Nationals phenom Bryce Harper. Donaldson's WAR this season already ranks among the top 20 by any player in the past decade, and by the end of the year he could crack the top five.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Josh Donaldson could become just the second player in Blue Jays history to be named AL MVP (George Bell, 1987).

COLE BURSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

.382 RISP

While the notion of "clutch" hitting as a skill has been largely debunked — it doesn't correlate from one season to another — Donaldson has certainly come through in some big moments for the Jays this season. He's hitting a major-league-best .382 with runners in scoring position and leads the league in go-ahead hits, while 27 of his 38 home runs have either tied the game for the Jays or given them the lead.

AL EAST

Yankees use ninth-inning rally to sting Rays

Alex Rodriguez had a tying, two-out RBI double in the ninth and Slade Heathcott followed with a three-run homer, leading the New York Yankees to a 4-1 victory over the Tampa Bay Rays on Monday night.

The victory moved the Yankees within three games of AL East-leading Toronto.

Erasmo Ramirez held the Yankees hitless until Carlos Beltran led off the eighth with a hot shot that took a short-hop off first baseman Richie Shaffer and went into right field.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Orioles blank Red Sox

Kevin Gausman pitched six innings of two-hit ball to earn his first victory in six weeks, Adam Jones had two RBIs and the Baltimore Orioles beat the Boston Red Sox 2-0 Monday night for their fifth win in six games.

Caleb Joseph had three hits for the Orioles, who moved two games ahead of the last-place Red Sox in the AL East.

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Searching for clues to 'the invisible injury'

HEAD TRAUMA

Experts closing in on diagnostic breakthroughs for concussions

The Carolina Panthers won their season opener 20-9 over the Jacksonville Jaguars on Sunday but star linebacker Luke Kuechly left in the second quarter with a concussion. BOB LEVERONE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

It's a confounding reality of what remains an invisible injury.

Broken bones show up on X-rays, torn muscles on an MRI. But a concussion can't yet be detected by an easy diagnostic test. Some of the world's best experts hope that will change soon enough.

"Maybe some day soon we're going to be able to diagnose a concussion with a blood test, just like you can diagnose a heart attack with a blood test," Dr. Charles Tator, a Toronto neurosurgeon and concussion expert says. "I'm sufficiently optimistic that that is going to happen."

Indeed, research by at least a couple of U.S. companies suggests the veil might be lifted by measuring for levels of protein in the blood, so-called biomarkers, that become elevated by brain trauma. Such tests, if proven useful in clinical trials, could help doctors determine the severity of a concussion and monitor recovery.

There is also hope that a blood test could one day determine the existence of chronic traumatic encephalopathy, a degenerative brain disease linked to repetitive head injury that has been found post-mortem in the brains of several former pro football and hockey players.

"I honestly would be disappointed if within the next three or four years we don't have a biomarker for concussion," said Dr. Robert Cantu, the Boston-area neurosurgeon, "just as I would be very disappointed if in the next three or four years we don't have a biomarker developed for CTE."

Dr. Tator said he was recently involved in publishing research that showed that an MRI can detect brain damage in patients who had repeat concussions.

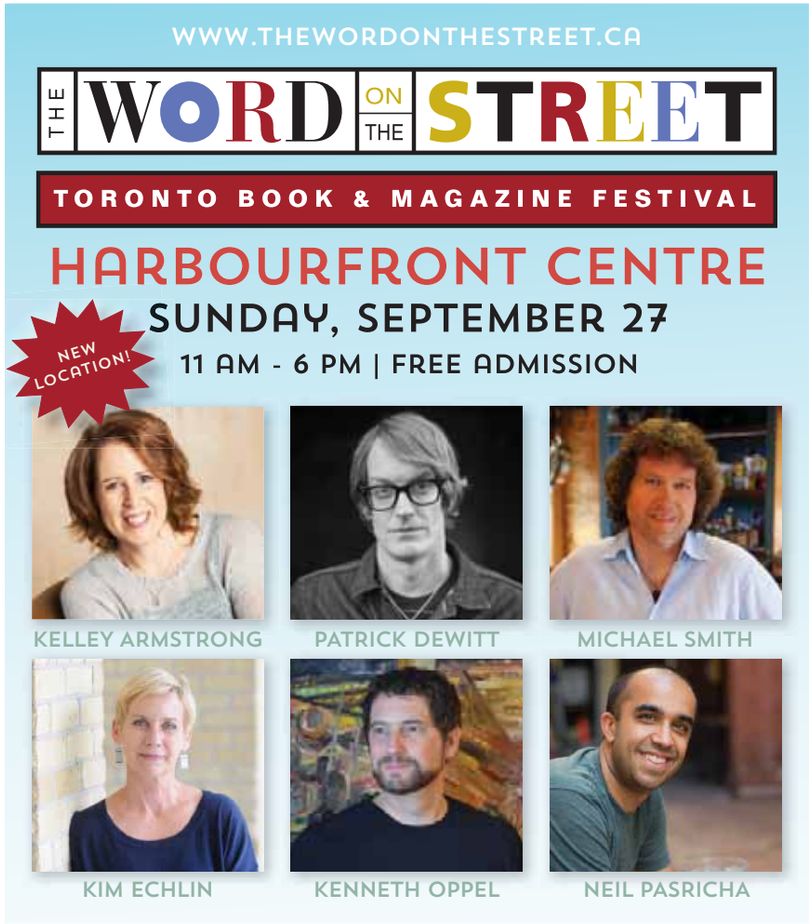
"That was a bit of a breakthrough," Dr. Tator said.

But only one in what many hope will be a line of breakthroughs to come.

"Right now concussion is the invisible injury. We call it that. Patients and family are aware of that term. But we're hoping with further research it's not going to be an invisible injury," Dr. Tator said. "We hope we'll be able to show people, here's your MRI, you can see this area of the brain isn't working so well. That'll be an important breakthrough."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

NFL EAGLES CAN'T KEEP UP WITH JONES Julio Jones of the Falcons scores one of his two first-half touchdowns against Byron Maxwell of the Philadelphia Eagles at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta on Monday night. Jones had 141 yards receiving and the Falcons won 26-24. Go to metronews.ca for more NFL coverage, including Monday's late game between the Minnesota Vikings and 49ers in San Francisco. KEVIN C. COX/GETTY IMAGES



NHL

Leafs hit links before things get hairy

When Lou Lamoriello ran the New Jersey Devils, he insisted his players be clean-shaven.

Given the number of three-day beards at the Maple Leafs' annual golf tournament Monday, no such edict has been given — yet — from the new general manager of the Maple Leafs.

"He hasn't said anything," said Daniel Winnik, rubbing his beard a bit nervously.

"That's not even a thought right now," Lamoriello said of the beard question. "For me, the most important thing is the personnel, and who are we and all that. I think you've got to put the right things in perspective first. The most important thing is: Who are we as a team? And who are we as players? And what can we expect? And what can we do? That's the main focus, nothing else."

Lamoriello took a second after that.

"I have more questions than answers," he said Lamoriello. "I really wish I had more answers."

These questions will begin to be answered starting Thursday, when training camp opens at the MasterCard Centre before moving for three days to Halifax.

"From meeting Lou and speaking with him, I'm really excited to be working for him," said Leafs captain Dion Phaneuf. "He's been around the game for a long time. He's got a lot of experience. He's won.

Mike Babcock and the Leafs held their annual golf tournament Monday. PHOTO CREDIT

"He's going to bring that experience and his knowledge and put his blueprint on this team. I'm sure there's going to be a meeting at the start of the year to say how he wants the team to be run. We're going to abide by that."

The biggest question is who will make up the 23-man roster by the time training camp ends. The Leafs, of course, will have the likes of prospects Mitch Marner, William Nylander and Kasperi Kapanen in camp fighting for spots.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

GIANT FLUB

Eli cops to mistake in Dallas

Eli Manning is taking the blame for two blunders that led to the New York Giants' collapse against the Dallas Cowboys, including one where he told halfback Rashad Jennings not to score.

Coach Tom Coughlin also accepted blame Monday. Offensive co-ordinator Ben McAdoo can have some, too, and so can defensive co-ordinator Steve Spagnuolo, whose group gave up TDs on Dallas' final two drives in a 27-26 loss on Sunday night.

But Manning was the focus of the blame Monday.

After losing track of Dallas' timeouts, he says he told Jennings not to score and run down the clock on two straight plays when the Giants had a first down at the Cowboys' four-yard line with 1:54 to play, and 23-20 lead. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

$4 billion

The Dallas Cowboys are the most valuable sports franchise in the world at a worth of $4 billion, according to Forbes magazine.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

REFUGEE CRISIS

Roma head keen to show 'Football Cares'

For Roma president James Pallotta, the immediate priority is not about toppling Juventus in Serie A or hoping for an upset against Champions League holder Barcelona on Wednesday.

From his Boston base, when the American financier started to see images of the refugee crisis escalating in Europe he realized he had to harness the power of football to help. And not just at Roma.

When you see a three-year old dead on the beach when he should have had his whole life ahead of him, if that doesn't make you pause and think I don't know what does.

James Pallotta

"When you see a three-year old dead on the beach when he should have had his whole life ahead of him, if that doesn't make you pause and think I don't know what does," Pallotta said.

While several clubs, particularly in Germany, have individually pursued goodwill initiatives for some time, Pallotta believed a more unified approach was required.

The campaign launch comes straight after the $3.5 billion-plus summer transfer window closed in Europe.

Roma gave an initial 575,000 euros ($862,248), including 250,000 euros from Pallotta. Inter Milan, Fiorentina and LA Galaxy are among the other clubs to join "Football Cares." The UN Refugee Agency, International Rescue Committee, Save the Children and the Red Cross will be the recipients of the donations.

"The amount of money being thrown around in the transfer market is fairly significant and I think most of the teams, ownership and players give a damn about what's going on in the world," Pallotta said in a telephone interview. "This is an opportunity to create a massive collaboration around fans and players."

While football clubs have felt a duty to act, the sport's embattled governing body, with $1.5 billion in cash reserves, has seemed silent as the crisis has deepened in Europe and calls have grown to find homes for the refugees.

FIFA, which did donate $200,000 to help Syrian refugees in Jordan in 2013, spent $27 million buying a hotel close to its Zurich headquarters last year. Asked last week if it had considered giving over any rooms to refugees, FIFA did not respond.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Italian hero Rossi pays Giovinco visit

SOCCER

Star of Azzurri's 1982 World Cup win dines with Toronto FC ace

Two generations of Italian scoring stars met for the first time on the weekend as Toronto FC sniper Sebastian Giovinco compared notes with World Cup legend Paolo Rossi.

The 58-year-old Rossi secured his place in Italian lore with six goals at the 1982 World Cup, helping the Azzurri to their third tournament win. The 28-year-old Giovinco, meanwhile, is turning heads in his debut season in MLS. The two had lunch Saturday as Rossi came through town on a promotional visit. "I had a great time ... I was very honoured to meet him," Giovinco said through an interpreter after Toronto's 3-1 loss to New England on Sunday.

"In Italy he's a hero because in Italy you live with soccer, so winning a World Cup is something unique," he added. "Of course Paolo Rossi was the man of the World Cup."

Rossi won the Golden Ball as the tournament's best player and the Golden Boot as top scorer. He was also named European Footballer of the Year in 1982.

Giovinco was born five years after the '82 World Cup.

Sebastian Giovinco spins off New England defender Scott Caldwell after a spectacular nutmeg during Sunday's match at BMO Field. JON BLACKER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Paolo Rossi THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rossi came to the tournament on the heels of a two-year ban from soccer due to a match-fixing scandal, a crime of which he said he was innocent. Rossi scored a hat trick against Brazil in the second round, a brace in the semifinal against Poland and the opening goal in Italy's 3-1 win over West Germany in the final.

"Everybody knows me wherever I go," Rossi told the Washington Post in 1983. "They treat me like a god. But I am just a normal person. I am nothing so special."

He said 33 years on he still regularly fields questions about the Brazil game.

It's was not Rossi's first visit to Toronto. He was here in 1983 when Juventus played the Toronto Blizzard. But Sunday marked Rossi's first MLS game. "I'm very curious," he said beforehand.

Rossi said he was surprised when he heard that Giovinco, like Rossi a former Juventus player, was moving to North America.

In Italy he's a hero because in Italy you live with soccer, so winning a World Cup is something unique.

Seba Giovinco on Paolo Rossi

"Because he is quite young and not at the end of his career," he said. "So it was a very courageous choice to join this project in North America."

"Giovinco could be the first of a series of, let's say, high-level players joining the North American soccer league," he added.

Much has changed since Rossi's day. The Italian star moved from Vicenza to Juventus in 1976 for a then-world record fee of 1.75 million pounds ($3.6 million in today's money). In 2013, Welsh forward Gareth Bale went to Real Madrid for 86 million pounds ($175.4 million).

"It's a free market," Rossi said with a smile.

Rossi was here to publicize "Italian Football Heroes," billed as a night of soccer and entertainment on March 5, 2016, at Toronto's Ricoh Coliseum.

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RECIPE Moroccan Couscous with Apricots, Dried Cranberries and Almonds

EAT LIGHT AT HOME

Rose Reisman
rosereisman.com
@rosereisman

Ready in
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 7 minutes

Ingredients
- 1 cup couscous
- 1 cup water or stock
- 2 tsp oil
- 1 cup diced onion
- 1 cup diced red pepper
- 1 1/2 tsp minced garlic
- 1/4 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp cumin
- 1/4 tsp ground ginger
- 1 cup canned chick peas, drained and rinsed
- 1/3 cup dried apricots, diced
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries or raisins
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 3 Tbsp lemon juice
- 1 tsp grated lemon zest
- Salt and pepper
- 1/4 cup chopped cilantro
- 1/3 cup toasted slivered almonds

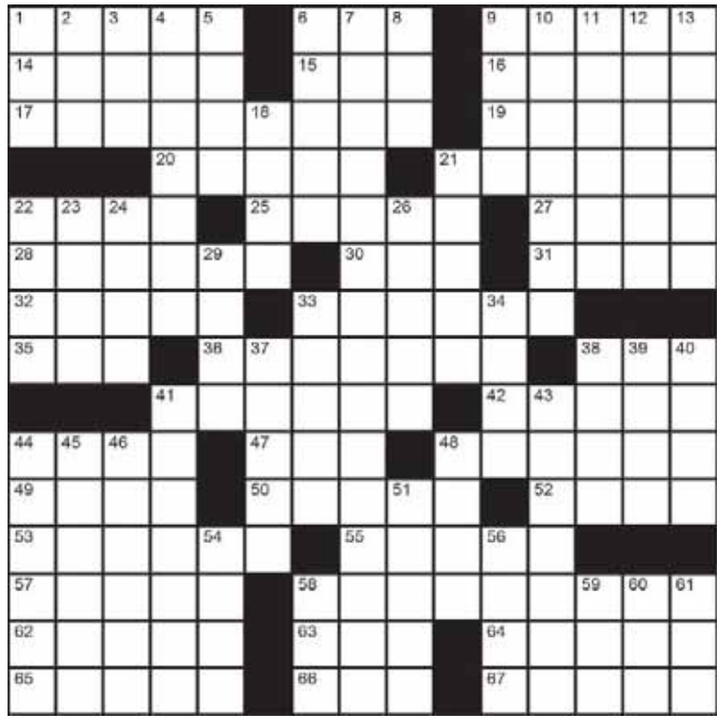
Directions
1. Bring water or stock to a boil. Add couscous, mix, remove from heat and keep covered for five minutes. Add to serving bowl.
2. Meanwhile, in a small skillet, heat 2 tsp oil. Add onion and sauté for five minutes. Add red pepper, garlic, cinnamon, cumin and ginger and sauté for two minutes. Add to couscous along with chick peas, apricots, cranberries, olive oil, lemon juice and zest, salt and pepper and cilantro. Garnish with almonds.

Nutrition per serving (recipe serves 6)
- Calories 260
- Protein 7 g
- Carbohydrates 40 g
- Fibre 7 g
- Total fat 10 g
- Saturated fat 1 g
- Cholesterol 0 mg
- Sodium 50 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Vaulted church recesses
6. Ms. Gardner
9. Irene who Sherlock Holmes admired
14. Georges Bizet's operatic priestess
15. Zilch
16. Family member
17. Counterparts/ analogues
19. Land stretch
20. Motionless
21. Not married
22. Help the criminal
25. Bounded
27. Union payments
28. Actor, Joseph Gordon-__
30. Long-snouted fish
31. For fear that
32. __ pad (Office item)
33. Entrapments
35. Canoe implement
36. Clever retort
38. "Chandelier" singer
41. Ready information for Internet display
42. Dithers
44. Saint-Louis-du-__! __! (Quebec municipality)
47. Patch up
48. Money, informally
49. Urgent situation [abbr.]
50. Top rate
52. Meddlesome [var. sp.]
53. Miami baseball player
55. Condemns
57. Michael Keaton's stay-at-home-dad comedy: 2 wds.
58. Wild carnivorous hybrid canids that are highly adaptable and are known to secretly dwell in cities and suburbs as well as the country
62. Put into law
63. Wonderment
64. Skincare brand
65. 'Fire Music': Current album by Canadian hard rock band __ Jones
66. '60s hallucinogen
67. Shapewear brand

DOWN
1. Mount
2. The Princess and the __
3. Lady's love
4. Springy stuff in skin
5. Pretzel particle
6. Anoint, olde-style
7. What the NWT community of Deline became known as after men from there (who worked as porters for the uranium mine at Port Radium during WWII) died from cancer: 3 wds.
8. Mr. Gore's
9. Opposing
10. Full skirt styles
11. 'L' of MLB
12. The Hollies' "Jennifer __"
13. Check once more
18. Cheerful tune
21. Prance
22. Additionally
23. __-Carotene
24. By any chance
26. "Crazy" singer Ms. Cline
29. Ruptured
33. Sales pitch
34. Currency in Chile
37. Norwegian playwright Henrik
38. Fodder structure
39. "Count __ __ a blessing."
40. Greyish
41. Malefic magic man, maybe
43. __-__ shower mat
44. Shortened, as pants
45. Egypt: Ancient cuneiform excavation site near the Nile River
46. Lily Munster's hubby
48. Cat call
51. Considered
54. "For __ __ be Queen o' the May, mother..." - Tennyson
56. Criminal associations
58. Li'l dietary number
59. U.S. gov. radio service
60. 'East' suffix
61. "__ and the City"

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
You may be convinced that a course of action is correct but the strength of someone's opposition will make you second guess it. Maybe you should give it a bit more thought.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
An opportunity to improve a partnership or relationship could be missed. Focus on it to the exclusion of everything else. Career issues and money matters may seem important but in the greater scheme of things they don't count for much.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
If you have a favour to ask, now is the time. Everyone wants to help you today. You would be foolish not to take advantage of it.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
If what you previously thought was a brilliant idea has come to nothing, abandon it. You may be tempted to give it another go but is it worth it? Probably not.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
A light-hearted approach is called for today, especially if you tend to get uptight about things over which you have no control. Whether you laugh or cry the outcome will be the same.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You will find it almost impossible to get started today. For a workaholic like you this may be worrying but remember, it's not the quantity of work you get done that matters but the quality. Do just one thing really well.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Something you thought was a permanent part of your world will disappear today but there is no need to feel sad. By creating space in your life you will encourage something even better to come in and fill it.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You may be unaware that someone is annoyed with you but you're about to find out. If a loved one or work colleague gives you a hard time today — was it something you said or did?

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Try not to be so self-critical. If something has not worked out the way you expected it to, well, that's just the way it is. You may have failed but it's all good experience.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Jupiter in the wealth area of your chart puts you in a strong position where finances are concerned. If a deal has to be made you should be the one calling the shots — and making the most profit.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
A disappointment may be hard to take but the pain will fade eventually. There are still plenty of things that inspire you, so pick one and throw yourself at it body, mind and soul.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
There are so many serious things going on around you that others are unlikely to be in the mood for fun and games. That's okay, you can entertain yourself well enough.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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			8			7		
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		8		3				

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WE'VE CIRCLED THE DATES
WE'RE READY TO TALK

Ontario's public elementary teachers have been without a contract for over a year.

After seven days of bargaining in September, the Liberal government and the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) have suddenly walked away and refused to schedule further meetings.

The Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) has been working hard to reach a fair collective agreement that preserves teaching and learning conditions in our public elementary schools. The Liberal government and OPSBA should be willing to do the same.

It's not too late. ETFO is ready to meet immediately – and for as long as it takes – to reach an agreement that's fair to teachers and occasional teachers, and good for our students.

We are asking the Liberal government and OPSBA to rejoin us at the central bargaining table.

LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO FIND AN AGREEMENT THAT'S GOOD FOR OUR SCHOOLS AND OUR STUDENTS.

ETFO FEEO

Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario

Fédération des enseignantes et des enseignants de l'élémentaire de l'Ontario

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